

## D. CONNOR WARNER

ASSOCIATE



### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation  
Health Care Liability

### CONTACT INFO

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### ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania  
2022

U.S. District Court Eastern District  
of Pennsylvania  
2023

U.S. District Court Middle District  
of Pennsylvania  
2024

### OVERVIEW

Connor is a member of the Professional Liability Department where he concentrates his practice on public entity and civil rights litigation. He handles all manner of public risk claims including disputes involving municipalities, police departments, zoning officers, school districts, public officials, and both private and public sector employees.

Connor also has experience representing physicians, physician assistants, hospitals, and other health care providers and facilities in general and professional liability matters.

Connor was born and raised in Chester County, Pennsylvania. He graduated from the University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and went on to earn his *juris doctor* from Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law with a Health Law Concentration.

During law school, Connor was an active member in several organizations, including the Honor Board, Villanova Health Law Society, Villanova Sports Law Society, and the COVID-19 Legal Research Project. He also served as a Certified Legal Intern at Villanova Law School's Interdisciplinary Mental & Physical Health Law Clinic, providing pro-bono representation on community health matters.

Prior to joining Marshall Dennehey, Connor worked at a civil litigation firm, representing clients primarily in the areas of premises, retail, and automobile liability.

Outside of work, Connor enjoys walking his dogs, spending time outdoors, and rooting for the Philadelphia sports teams.

Connor is admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

### THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

#### A Deadly Encounter: Court Clarifies Use of Force in Police Shooting of Mentally Ill Individual

**Philadelphia - Headquarters**  
**Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation**  
**March 1, 2025**

Key Points: Defense Digest, Vol. 31, No.

### EDUCATION

Villanova University Charles  
Widger School of Law (J.D., 2022)

University of Delaware (B.A.,  
2019)

### ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Chester County Bar Association

Philadelphia Bar Association

### LANGUAGES

Spanish (conversational)

### YEAR JOINED

2023

## RESULTS

### Dismissal of Police Officers Secured Via Sanctions Imposed

#### **Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation**

**August 22, 2025**

We had our clients dismissed via sanctions imposed. On Jan. 6, 2011, Charles Sample was arrested by officers of the Philadelphia Police Department's Narcotics Field Unit. The plaintiff alleged the officers seized \$40,000 in cash from his vehicle, falsified a search warrant affidavit, disregarded proper procedures and withheld exculpatory evidence, leading to drug charges. The plaintiff entered a guilty plea for probation to avoid a lengthy prison sentence. On Jan.

### Dismissal Secured in Defamation Matter Involving an American Legion Post

#### **Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation**

**June 3, 2025**

We successfully had a defamation matter against an American Legion Post and certain of its members dismissed. After joining the Post, the plaintiff supposedly found unpaid invoices, canceled insurance policies, and non-compliance with Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) and gaming license regulations. He fired the restaurant manager, processed payroll, secured new insurance, and attempted to renew the gaming license at the defendants' direction.

### Summary Judgment Granted in First Amendment Retaliation Claim Case

#### **Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation**

**May 16, 2025**

We were granted summary judgment in the dismissal of a First Amendment retaliation claim. The case was brought against our client, the borough manager, as well as the borough and several other of its employees. The plaintiff worked as a trash man in the Streets Department. With regard to the borough manager, the plaintiff alleged First Amendment retaliation under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, claiming a hostile work environment due to racial slurs and discriminatory behavior by coworkers and supervisors.

### Summary Judgment Obtained in a Section 1983 Malicious Prosecution Case

#### **Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation**

**February 12, 2025**

We obtained summary judgment on behalf of several Philadelphia narcotics police officers in a Section 1983 malicious prosecution and fabrication of evidence lawsuit. The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania dismissed the case, with prejudice, finding the record was barren of any fabricated evidence by any of the defendant officers that was ever used in or influenced any criminal proceeding against the plaintiff, the officers possessed probable cause to charge the plaintiff, and the plaintiff tendered no evidence of an underlying constitutional violation.

### Summary Judgment Secured in a Section 1983 Substantive Due Process Case

#### **Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation**

**December 23, 2024**

We obtained summary judgment in a Section 1983 substantive due process claim involving a Philadelphia police officer. The officer had taken a photo of the plaintiff's son after he attempted suicide by jumping off a bridge, and the photo was later circulated on social media. The plaintiff alleged that circulation of the photo violated her substantive due process privacy rights, and she also asserted a claim for intentional infliction of emotional distress. One week before trial began, the Honorable Mark Kearney, U.S.