

DAVID D. BLAKE

SHAREHOLDER



AREAS OF PRACTICE

Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith
Litigation
Insurance Agents & Brokers Liability

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ADMISSIONS

New Jersey
1995

U.S. District Court District of New Jersey
1996

EDUCATION

Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law (J.D., 1994)

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (B.A., 1990)

OVERVIEW

David is a member of the firm's Professional Liability Department and devotes his practice largely to insurance coverage, bad faith litigation, and the defense of insurance agents/brokers. His experience with insurance coverage matters include all lines of business including first party property, commercial liability and specialty lines policies. David provides consultation services to insurers and self-insured clients covering all aspects of New Jersey claims handling practices. Prior to joining Marshall Dennehey, David was assistant solicitor for the City of Pleasantville, New Jersey, City of Absecon, New Jersey, Northfield, New Jersey and special counsel to the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA), as well as assistant planning board attorney for Galloway Township, New Jersey.

David is a 1990 graduate of Rutgers University (NCAS) and received his *juris doctor* from Claude W. Pettit College of Law at Ohio Northern University in 1994. While in law school, David received the American Jurisprudence Awards for Excellence in the study of Insurance Law, Trusts & Estates and Secured Transactions as well as making the Dean's List.

HONORS & AWARDS

The Best Lawyers in America®,
Litigation - Insurance
2023-2026

The Best Lawyers list is issued by Woodward & White. A description of the selection methodology can be found [here](#). No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Camden County Bar Association

New Jersey State Bar Association, Insurance Section

YEAR JOINED

2009

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

98 Marshall Dennehey Attorneys Recognized in the 2026 Editions of The Best Lawyers in America® and the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America

August 20, 2025

Marshall Dennehey is proud to highlight the firm's 98 attorneys who have been recognized in the 2026 editions of The Best Lawyers in America® and the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America. Less than 6% of all practicing lawyers in the U.S.

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Supreme Court of New Jersey Rules That Insurers Do Not Have a Duty to Defend or Indemnify for 'Laidlow' Claims—as Long as the Policy Includes the Correct Exclusionary Language

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Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

Workers' Compensation

April 7, 2025

New Jersey Supreme Court Decides Laidlow Exclusion Is Valid

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Workers' Compensation

Employment Law

Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

December 20, 2024

Rodriguez v. Shelbourne Spring, LLC, A-2079-22, December 12, 2024 New Jersey Legal Update – December 20, 2024,

New Jersey Legislature Passes Bad Faith – What's Next??

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Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

January 14, 2022

New Jersey is on the brink of its first insurance bad faith statute after clearing both the Senate and Assembly by vote on January 10, 2022. Legal Updates for Insurance Services – January 14, 2022, has been prepared for our readers by Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin.

New Jersey Auto Insurers, Get Ready for First-Party Bad Faith!!!

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Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

Automobile Liability

February 1, 2021

New Jersey is poised to pass its first-party bad faith statute. After passing the Senate on Friday 2/1/21, it only needs to pass the Assembly. Legal Update for Insurance Services - February 1, 2021, has been prepared for our readers by Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin.

PRESENTATIONS

Bad Faith and Fair Dealing in New Jersey, client seminar, May 26, 2021

PUBLISHED WORKS

"Supreme Court of New Jersey Rules That Insurers Do Not Have a Duty to Defend or Indemnify for 'Laidlow' Claims—as Long as the Policy Includes the Correct Exclusionary Language," *New Jersey Law Journal*, April 7, 2025

"State Of The Occurrence," *Defense Digest*, 2012-06, Vol. 18, No. 2

RESULTS

Successfully Overturned \$1.8 Million Judgment on Appeal in New Jersey

Appellate Advocacy & Post-Trial Practice

Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

July 11, 2025

We successfully overturned a \$1.8 million judgment on appeal in a case that involved the *Laidlow* exclusion in a workers' compensation/employers liability policy. The decedent succumbed to heat exhaustion while at work, and the plaintiff alleged the death was due to working conditions the employer knew were substantially certain to lead to injury. Our client, the insurer, offered to defend the employer, but only to the extent of obtaining dismissal of the workers' compensation claim, which was filed in the wrong forum.

Defense Verdict Secured in Contentious Fire Loss Case

Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

March 22, 2024

We obtained a hard fought defense verdict in a contentious case involving a total fire loss at a duplex owned by a single mother. The investigation revealed that the named insured did not reside in the home and, instead, rented the two units. The claim denial included application misrepresentations and issues related to the fact that the insured property did not meet the policy's definition of a "residence premises." Ultimately, the court decided that the property did meet the "residence premises" definition.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

Warren & Maryann Andrews v. Merchants Mutual Ins. Co., 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89997

Reina v. Twp. of Union, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 103406 (D.N.J. July 24, 2013)

Kouveliotis v. USCC Cas. Ins. Co., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 148373 (D.N.J. Oct. 16, 2012)

Klama v. Zuniga-Elizando et al., DOCKET NO. A-1382-09T2, 2011 N.J. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 653 (App. Div. 2011)

D.E. v. N. Hunterdon-Voorhees Reg'l High Sch. Dist., 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 45121 (D.N.J. June 20, 2007)

South Jersey Family Med. Ctr. v. City of Pleasantville, 176 N.J. 184 (N.J. 2003)

Moore v. Acme Corrugated Box Co., 1998 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9897 (E.D. Pa. July 6, 1998)

Boody v. Township of Cherry Hill et. al, 997 F. Supp. 562 (D.N.J. 1997)