

MICHAEL J. MCMASTER

ASSOCIATE



ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania
2021

EDUCATION

Drexel University Thomas R. Kline
School of Law (J.D., 2021)

Rutgers, The State University of
New Jersey (B.A., 2018)

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Philadelphia Bar Association,
Workers' Compensation Section

YEAR JOINED

2024

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Workers' Compensation

CONTACT INFO

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OVERVIEW

Michael is a member of the Workers' Compensation Department where he represents employers, insurance carriers, and third-party administrators in Pennsylvania.

Prior to joining Marshall Dennehey, Michael clerked for the Honorable Charles J. Cunningham III of the Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas here in Philadelphia. During his clerkship, Michael assisted Judge Cunningham in ruling on pretrial motions, drafting opinions, and overall management of the courtroom.

Michael Graduated from Drexel University Kline School of Law in 2021. While attending law school, Michael had the opportunity to participate in the Federal Litigation and Appeals Clinic where he represented clients from Liberia, Angola, and Ghana seeking asylum due to the persecution they each faced in their native countries. Michael also participated in several pro bono projects including immigration related projects organized by the Brehon Law Society and HIAS, as well as expungement clinics organized by the Legal Aid Society of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

When Michael is outside of work, he enjoys reading non-fiction, watching sports, listening to podcasts, photography, and hanging out with his dog Babe.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Pennsylvania Supreme Court Overrules Specific Loss Precedent, Grants Benefits to Estate of Deceased Worker

Philadelphia - Headquarters
Workers' Compensation
September 1, 2025
Key Points: Defense Digest, Vol. 31, No.

AI in Workers' Compensation: Are We There Yet?

Philadelphia - Headquarters
Workers' Compensation
August 9, 2024

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

PA Workers' Compensation Law: How to Produce the Best IME Reports, webinar, November 6, 2025

PUBLISHED WORKS

"Pennsylvania Supreme Court Overrules Specific Loss Precedent, Grants Benefits to Estate of Deceased Worker," *Defense Digest*, 2025-09-01, Vol. 31, No. 3

"AI in Workers' Compensation: Are We There Yet?" *The Legal Intelligencer*, August 9, 2024

SIGNIFICANT REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Successfully defended a Claim Petition involving a claimant that suffered a leg injury that later required an amputation. The claimant alleged both physical and severe psychological injuries. The claimant was the sole owner of the company, and when he purchased workers' compensation insurance, he signed an acknowledgement that as the owner he would not be considered an "employee" under the Act. At the first hearing, we moved to bifurcate the matter for a decision on whether the claimant was covered under the Act. The workers' compensation judge granted this motion. At the next hearing, we argued that the claimant was not an employee under the Act and, therefore, not entitled to receive any benefits, based on the insurance policy that claimant had previously agreed to not be considered an employee. The workers' compensation judge agreed and dismissed the petition.