

JASON BANONIS

OFFICE MANAGING ATTORNEY
SHAREHOLDER



AREAS OF PRACTICE

General Liability
Premises and Retail Liability
Product Liability
Automobile Liability
Hospitality and Liquor Liability
Health Care Liability
Trucking & Transportation Liability

CONTACT INFO

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Allentown, PA 18104

ADMISSIONS

New Jersey
2000

Pennsylvania
2000

EDUCATION

Widener University School of
Law (J.D., 1999)

Bucknell University (B.S.B.A.,
1994)

HONORS & AWARDS

Pennsylvania Super Lawyer
Rising Star
2007-2008

OVERVIEW

A Pennsylvania Super Lawyer Rising Star, Jason has spent much of his career handling premises liability, products liability, professional liability, commercial motor vehicle and general liability matters for national and local clients. He continues to devote much of his practice in those same areas since joining Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin in 2002. Jason also serves as the office managing attorney and the firm's casualty supervising attorney in the Allentown office.

During his career, Jason has handled hundreds of premises, retail and motor vehicle matters, trying several cases to verdict. He has represented many Fortune 500 companies and a considerable number of service providers in sports and entertainment, retail, corrections, healthcare, facilities, restaurant and bar industries. In one of many noteworthy cases, Jason was able to reduce a settlement demand from \$2 million to \$25,000 with the assistance of medical, vocational and liability experts. As a knowledgeable litigator, Jason was also involved in the MDL litigation for the distributor of latex products. He also regularly serves as court-appointed arbitrator in the Court of Common Pleas of Lehigh County, Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Jason gives back to his community, spending time as chairman of the Lower Saucon Township Zoning Hearing Board. The five-member board meets monthly to hear and decide substantive and procedural challenges to the validity of land use ordinances. He is also the current President of the Pennsylvania Defense Institute (PDI), a membership of more than 600 lawyers, insurance company executives, self-insurers, and independent adjusters from across the state dedicated to supporting a strong civil litigation defense climate, promoting defense interests, growth and retention, and fostering pro-defense public policies that advance the agenda of our member interests.

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

American Bar Association

Claims & Litigation Management Alliance (CLM)

Defense Research Institute

Lehigh County Bar Association

Lower Saucon Township Zoning Hearing Board

Northampton County Bar Association

Pennsylvania Bar Association

Pennsylvania Defense Institute, (PDI) President 2019; Executive Vice President 2017-2018; Treasurer 2016-2017; Secretary 2015-2016; Board of Directors 2011-Present

Temple American Inn of Court, 2000-2001

YEAR JOINED

2002

Before becoming an attorney, and while attending law school, he was a casualty claims representative with Crawford & Company where he managed premises liability and products liability matters. He also worked for the PMA Group as a client account representative, handling general negligence and professional liability cases for several government entities. Jason also served a judicial externship with Judge Richard Gebelein of the Superior Court of Delaware.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

On the Pulse...Thriving 'Here in Allentown'

Allentown
June 1, 2019

Defense Digest, Vol. 25, No. 2, June 2019 By Jason Banonis, Esq.*

Social Media: the Discoverable Window to the Trust

Allentown
General Liability
September 21, 2011

LexisNexis Martindale-Hubbell, September 21, 2011

Social Media: The Discoverable Window to the Truth

Allentown
General Liability
September 1, 2011

Pennsylvania - Civil Practice Key Points: Defense Digest, Vol. 17, No. 3, September 2011

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

An Overview of Pennsylvania Law and Effective Litigation Management Strategies, Marshall Dennehey Client Seminar, June 2015

An Overview of Pennsylvania Automobile Liability, Marshall Dennehey Client Seminar, April 2015

Issues and Defenses in Pennsylvania Premises Liability Cases, American National Red Cross' Dedicated Liability Unit, July 2011

Pennsylvania Liability Seminar, Crawford & Company

Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Liability Seminar, Laidlaw Transit, Inc.

Persuasion, Civility and How Jurors Make Decisions, Panelist and moderator, Pennsylvania Defense Institute North Region Ethics CLE Program

Advanced General Liability Seminar, organizer and moderator, PDI East with federal and state judges

PUBLISHED WORKS

"Social Media: the Discoverable Window to the Trust," LexisNexis Martindale-Hubbell, September 21, 2011 and *Defense Digest*, Vol. 17, No. 3, September 2011

RESULTS

SIGNIFICANT REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Obtained summary judgment for a hospital operating room management consulting company for premises liability claims resulting in alleged traumatic brain injury where demand was \$1.9 million.

Obtained defense verdict for a bowling alley for premises liability claims resulting in alleged brachial plexus injury where demand was \$250,000.

Obtained summary judgment for a correctional services food services provider for toxic tort claims of correctional officers alleging exposure to mold in the prison where demand was in excess of \$1 million.

Successfully and economically resolved a complex premises liability case at an air cargo distribution hub through creative use of meteorology experts and discovery.

Successfully and economically resolved a complex industrial shelving unit collapse case resulting in catastrophic head injury through creative use of biomechanical and engineering experts.

Successfully and economically resolved a medical product liability case involving a catheter sheath through effective use of engineering and design experts.

Successfully and economically resolved a products liability case involving a motorized yard truck through effective use of engineering and human factors experts.

Obtained summary judgment for a tree removal service based on plaintiff's failure to file action within statute of limitations.

Obtained defense verdict at trial in a low speed motor vehicle accident through effective use of photographs, damages estimates and medical experts.

Successfully obtained dismissal of the distributor of an allegedly defective log splitter.

Successfully defended construction liability case where the demand was \$10 million by showing that the action of my client was not the proximate cause of plaintiff's injuries.