

CHRISTOPHER E. DOUGHERTY

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DIRECTOR, PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY DEPARTMENT
SHAREHOLDER



AREAS OF PRACTICE

Professional Liability
Architectural, Engineering and
Construction Defect Litigation
Product Liability
Real Estate E&O Liability
Commercial Litigation
Insurance Agents & Brokers Liability

CONTACT INFO

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2000 Market Street, Suite 2300
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ADMISSIONS

Florida
1986

Pennsylvania
1988

U.S. District Court Eastern
District of Pennsylvania
1988

U.S. District Court Middle
District of Pennsylvania
2002

EDUCATION

Stetson University College of
Law (J.D., magna cum laude,
1985)

United States Naval Academy
(B.S., with honors, 1978)

OVERVIEW

Chris is the Director of the Professional Liability Department with responsibility for 16 practice groups and approximately 150 attorneys. In 2013, Chris became a member of the firm's Executive Committee, a three member entity that governs the day-to-day operations of the firm, and now serves as the Chairman of the Executive Committee. Chris also serves as the Chairman of the Board of Directors since being elected to the position in January, 2014.

Since joining Marshall Dennehey in 1991, Chris has developed an extensive defense practice in a wide range of litigation areas: professional liability, construction litigation and product liability. His aptitude for managing people and legal practices led to his leadership roles on the top governing bodies of the firm.

Chris graduated with honors from the United States Naval Academy in 1978 and received his *juris doctor* from Stetson University College of Law in 1985, graduating *magna cum laude*.

From 1978 to 1991, Chris served on active duty in the United States Marine Corps. From 1991 to 2004, he served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and retired in the grade of Colonel. During this time, among other responsibilities, Chris served as a General Courts-Martial certified Military Judge.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Marshall Dennehey Named a 2020 "Best Law Firm" in Multiple Practice Areas by U.S. News - Best Lawyers®

Mount Laurel
Allentown
Scranton
Roseland
Wilmington
Cleveland
Fort Lauderdale
Jacksonville
Orlando
Tampa
Doylestown
Erie
Harrisburg
King of Prussia
New York
Philadelphia - Headquarters
Long Island, NY - Melville
Pittsburgh
Cincinnati
Westchester
Westport
November 1, 2019

Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin has been named a "2020 Best Law Firm" in multiple practice areas, both nationally and across numerous regions of the country, by U.S. News - Best Lawyers®.

[Read More](#)

Twenty-five Marshall Dennehey Attorneys Selected to the 2020 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America®: John Ninosky is "Lawyer of the Year" for Personal Injury Litigation in Harrisburg; Daniel Deitrick Makes List for Workers' Compensation Litigation

August 15, 2019

Marshall Dennehey is proud to announce that 25 attorneys from offices across the firm have been selected to the 2020 Edition of the Best Lawyers in America®.

[Read More](#)

Marshall Dennehey Receives Top Honors (Again!) in Philadelphia Business Journal's Best Places to Work Program

Philadelphia - Headquarters
King of Prussia
Doylestown
Mount Laurel
August 13, 2019

For the second time in seven years, Marshall Dennehey was selected as the top scorer in the Extra Large Company category of the Philadelphia Business Journal's Best Places to Work program.

[Read More](#)

Marshall Dennehey Announces 2019 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers and Super Lawyer Rising Stars

May 8, 2019

Sixty-seven attorneys from the Pennsylvania offices of Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin have been selected to the 2019 edition of Pennsylvania Super Lawyers magazine.

[Read More](#)

Marshall Dennehey Named a 2019 "Best Law Firm" in Multiple Practice Areas by U.S. News - Best Lawyers® -- Firm's Appellate Practice is ranked both nationally and regionally for the first time

Philadelphia - Headquarters

November 1, 2018

Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin has been named a "2019 Best Law Firm" in multiple practice areas, both nationally and across numerous regions of the country, by U.S. News - Best Lawyers®.

[Read More](#)

Message From the Executive Committee

Philadelphia - Headquarters

December 1, 2019

For Everything, There Is a Season Defense Digest, Vol. 25, No. 4, December 2019 is prepared by Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin to provide information on recent legal developments of interest to our readers.

On the Pulse...Culturally Speaking

Roseland

September 1, 2019

By Christopher E. Dougherty, Esq., Chairman of the Board of Directors Defense Digest, Vol. 25, No. 3, September 2019. Defense Digest is prepared by Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin to provide information on recent legal developments of interest to our readers.

On the Pulse...Culturally Speaking

Westchester

June 1, 2019

Defense Digest, Vol. 25, No. 2, June 2019 by Christopher E. Dougherty, Esq. Defense Digest, Vol. 25, No. 2, June 2019. Defense Digest is prepared by Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin to provide information on recent legal developments of interest to our readers.

Amendments to the Florida Evidence Code

General Liability

Professional Liability

Health Care Liability

Workers' Compensation

May 28, 2019

By Joey M. Chindamo

Message from the Executive Committee

Philadelphia - Headquarters

March 1, 2019

Defense Digest, Vol. 25, No. 1, March 2019 By Christopher E. Dougherty, Esq. Chairman, Executive Committee "Never be too big to do the small things that need to be done." Defense Digest, Vol. 25, No. 1, March 2019. Defense Digest is prepared by Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin to provide information on recent legal developments of interest to our readers.

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA), Faculty, Philadelphia, 2010

Preventing Legal Malpractice Claims and Ethics Complaints in Your Law Practice, Union League, Philadelphia, October 2010

Multistate Update on Insurance Agent and Brokers' Errors and Omissions Liability and Risk Management Issues, Liberty Mutual Insurance Co., Seattle, WA, September 2010

Preventing Legal Malpractice Claims and Ethics Complaints in Your Law Practice, Union League, Philadelphia, October 2009

National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA), Faculty, Philadelphia, 2008

MDWCG Trial Advocacy Program, Chairman, 2003 - Present

Product Liability Defenses, Insurance Institute of Philadelphia, 1998

Trial Evidence, Instructor, Coastal Carolina College, 1987

PUBLISHED WORKS

"Talkin' 'Bout Their Generation -- Don't Believe the Hype," *The Pennsylvania Lawyer*, September/October 2018

"Shifting Indemnity to Sub-Contractor For Negligence of Owner Or General Contractor: Perry/Ruzzi Doctrine Is Alive And Well In Pennsylvania," *Defense Digest*, Vol. 11, No. 2, June 2005 and *Pennsylvania Defense Institute*, January 2006

"Pennsylvania Superior Court Limits Use Of Frye When Seeking To Exclude Expert Scientific Evidence," *Defense Digest*, Vol. 9, No. 4, December 2003

"Plaintiff's Conduct May Be Admissible In A Products Liability Suit-It Depends On What You Call It," *Civil Litigation Update*, Vol. 7, No. 1, Winter 2002 and Pennsylvania Bar Association's *Civil Litigation Section Newsletter*, Winter 2002 and *Defense Digest*, Vol. 7, No. 3, June 2001

"Hold Onto Your Defense Evidence If You Want To Move For A Non-Suit," *Defense Digest*, Vol. 5, No. 6, December 1999

"Acura Integra Coupe Is Not Intended For Truckin'," *Pennsylvania Law Weekly*, August 9, 1999; *Defense Digest*, Vol. 5, No. 1, February 1999

SIGNIFICANT REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Defended manufacturer of pepper spray in federal court in a product liability/police excessive force suit for wrongful death. Motion for summary judgment obtained.

Defended suit against an attorney wherein it was alleged the attorney improperly prosecuted the underlying action resulting in no recovery. Proved at trial that client attorney's tactical decisions were sound and judicious and underlying result not attributable to attorney neglect.

Defended suburban Philadelphia Economic Area Development Corporation in a breach of contract suit brought by land developer to recover \$15 million in lost economic opportunities. Tried to verdict with \$18,000 recovery only.

Defending for over 17 years the manufacturer, designer and distributor of automobiles, ATVs, motorcycles and varied powered equipment in wrongful death, personal injury and breach of warranty actions.

Defended manufacturer of carbon monoxide detector in wrongful death suit. Settled for nuisance value.

Defended construction manager of major Philadelphia construction project at which worker fell off ladder to concrete two floors below. Settlement made with no money paid by our client.

Coordinate pleadings and discovery for manufacturer of medical-surgical devices in national litigation.

Tried a breach of contract case for a utilities contractor versus Penn Dot, and prevailed, recovering in excess of \$500,000.

Tried a breach of contract/indemnity action for a construction manager versus one of its sub-contractors and prevailed in recovering in excess of \$750,000.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

Smith v. Honda, 846 F.Supp. 1217 (M.D. Pa. 1994)

Weiner v. Honda, 718 A.2d 305 (Pa. Super. 1998)

Price v. Brown, 680 A.2d 1149 (Pa. 1996)

Kukowski v. Homesburg S.C., 739 A.2d 597 (Pa. Super. 1999)