

## STUART H. SOSTMANN

CO-CHAIR, CONSTRUCTION INJURY PRACTICE GROUP  
SHAREHOLDER



### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Construction Injury Litigation  
Product Liability  
Property Litigation  
Automobile Liability  
Architectural, Engineering and Construction  
Defect Litigation  
Hospitality and Liquor Liability  
Commercial Litigation  
Premises and Retail Liability  
General Liability

### CONTACT INFO

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501 Grant Street  
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### ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania  
1999

### EDUCATION

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

University of Pittsburgh (B.A., cum  
laude, 1996)

### HONORS & AWARDS

AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale-  
Hubbell®

The Best Lawyers in America®,  
Product Liability Litigation -  
Defendants  
2022

Pennsylvania Super Lawyers  
2018-2022

### OVERVIEW

With over two decades of experience as a litigator, Stuart concentrates his practice in the area of commercial general liability. He routinely handles high exposure matters in the fields of product liability, premises liability, auto liability, construction litigation, marine liability, dram shop and commercial litigation. This includes cases involving personal injuries and property damage claims. Additionally, Stuart serves as the firm's casualty supervising attorney in the Pittsburgh office, ensuring that client matters are handled promptly, professionally and effectively.

In his career, Stuart has represented manufacturers, suppliers and retailers in product liability matters, including electronics, medical equipment, food products, appliances, farm equipment, plumbing equipment, power tools, toys and sports and recreational equipment. He frequently represents property owners, retailers, pharmacies, general contractors, subcontractors and utilities in premises liability litigation. He has tried numerous cases to verdict in counties throughout Western Pennsylvania.

In addition, a large portion of Stuart's practice is devoted to construction litigation. These claims are highly involved cases that require deep knowledge and an extensive background in all areas of the construction industry. As co-chair of the Construction Injury Practice Group, Stuart handles a wide variety of construction injury as well as defect cases, defending contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, engineers, architects, and other construction trade professionals throughout the State of Pennsylvania against such claims. The scope of his representation includes common claims of construction defect issues like water intrusion due to faulty roofing or window/door seals, cracked foundation or improper water proofing, structural issues, design issues, mold intrusion, drywall problems, and soil subsidence, heaving or movement.

Stuart attended the University of Pittsburgh graduating with a B.A. in Political Science. He then attended the University of Pittsburgh School of Law where he participated in the Appellate Moot Court Program, Student Bar Association and the Health Law Certificate Program. He obtained his *juris doctor* from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

Rated AV® Preeminent™ by LexisNexis Martindale-Hubbell, Stuart is also a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association and Pennsylvania Defense Institute. Additionally, he is presently the Executive Vice President of Programming for the Pennsylvania Defense Institute and a member of the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County. He is admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania.

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## ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Allegheny County Bar Association

American Bar Association

Pennsylvania Defense Institute,  
President 2022-2023; Executive  
VP of Operations 2021-2022;  
Executive VP of Programming  
2020-2021

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## YEAR JOINED

1998

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

### Marshall Dennehey's Stuart H. Sostmann Elected President of the Pennsylvania Defense Institute

General Liability  
July 18, 2022  
Philadelphia, PA – Stuart H.  
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### Marshall Dennehey Announces 2022 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers and Rising Stars

May 23, 2022  
Thirty-four attorneys across Marshall Dennehey's six Pennsylvania offices have been selected to the 2022 edition of Pennsylvania Super Lawyers magazine.  
[Read More](#)

### Three Marshall Dennehey Attorneys Selected 2022 "Lawyers of the Year" and 67 Attorneys Recognized Overall in the 2022 Editions of The Best Lawyers in America® and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®

August 19, 2021  
Marshall Dennehey is proud to announce that three of the firm's attorneys have been selected 2022 "Lawyers of the Year" and 67 attorneys have been recognized overall in the 2022 Editions of The Best Lawyers in America® and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®.  
[Read More](#)

### Marshall Dennehey Announces 2021 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers and Rising Stars

May 26, 2021  
Forty-five attorneys from the Pennsylvania offices of Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin have been selected to the 2021 edition of Pennsylvania Super Lawyers magazine.  
[Read More](#)

### Steven Forry and Stuart Sostmann Promoted to Supervisory Roles in Pittsburgh

Health Care Liability  
General Liability  
March 1, 2017  
Steven J. Forry and Stuart H. Sostmann, shareholders in the Pittsburgh office of Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, have been promoted to supervisory roles in their respective practice areas. Mr.  
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## CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

*Civil Litigation State of Affairs – The Impact of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania and New Jersey & What's Next, Marshall Dennehey Client Webinar, May, 2021*

*An Overview of Construction Defect Litigation in Pennsylvania, Nationwide Insurance Company, December 16, 2014*

*Commercial Defense Practice in New York, New Jersey & Pennsylvania, Nationwide Insurance Company, December 5, 2014*

*Brief Overview of Pennsylvania Contractual Indemnity and Additional Insured Issues, Nationwide Insurance Company, April 2012*

*Discoverability and Proper Use of Claim Notes, Berkley Mid-Atlantic, October 2011*

## **PUBLISHED WORKS**

"Yes! Waivers of Liability for Recreational Activities Are Still Effective in Pennsylvania," *Defense Digest*, Vol. 23, No. 1, March 2017

"Timing Is Everything, Even for Bad Faith Claims," *Defense Digest*, Vol. 6, No. 1, February 2000

## **RESULTS**

### **Marshall Dennehey Successfully Represents Client in Multi-Million Dollar Chemical Spill Case**

#### **Property Litigation**

**October 21, 2021**

In a lawsuit seeking \$279 million in alleged property damages, Marshall Dennehey attorneys successfully defended their client, a subcontractor of a railroad repair shop, against any and all liability.

#### **SIGNIFICANT REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS**

Successfully argued a precedent-setting case in the Pennsylvania Superior Court where a waiver of subrogation clause in a construction contract was applied to building damages caused by a windstorm three years after the project was completed.

Successfully defended a product installer at trial in a single vehicle accident, where the placement of the product in the vehicle was claimed to be the cause of the crash at high speed. A defense verdict was obtained after a 5 day jury trial where the demand was \$800,000 prior to trial.