

Robert B. Hille

PARTNER

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One of the things that initially attracted me to the law was my interest in other people's stories. I think my appreciation for those stories adds to my effectiveness as a trial attorney, as it enables me to relate events to jurors in a more personal manner. In turn, this helps me persuade each juror that what we are asking them to do is also the right thing to do.

Mr. Hille focuses his practice in litigation, with a particular emphasis on trial advocacy. His areas of concentration include insurance, healthcare law, professional liability and ethics, and white-collar criminal matters, including those related to professional ethics. Mr. Hille has extensive trial expertise that encompasses insurance defense and coverage cases, healthcare disputes, professional liability defense, fraud and abuse, and regulatory issues.

Mr. Hille's white-collar experience includes involvement in both state and federal investigations, including those related to healthcare fraud and abuse and the taking of fraudulent payments from government entities. He also represents legal professionals in District Ethics Committee (DEC) and Office of Attorney Ethics (OAE) investigations and prosecutions, including matters before the Disciplinary Review Board (DRB) and New Jersey Supreme Court. In that regard, Mr. Hille has represented clients in matters ranging from dismissal or diversion to disbarment.

Certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Civil Trial Attorney, Mr. Hille has served as an amicus representative for professional and business associations on a number of matters before the Supreme Court. He has published and lectured widely in his areas of concentration.

Departments

Healthcare

Litigation

Practice Groups

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Criminal Defense &
Regulatory Compliance

Education

Seton Hall University School
of Law, J.D., 1983

Bucknell University, B.A., 1980

Bar Admissions

New Jersey, 1983

New York, 1991

U.S. Supreme Court, 2008

U.S. Court of Appeals, Third
Circuit, 1996

U.S. District Court, District of
New Jersey, 1983

U.S. District Court, Eastern
District of New York, 1986

U.S. District Court, Southern
District of New York, 1986

District of Columbia, 1990

Results may vary depending on your particular facts and legal circumstances.

HONORS & AWARDS

- American Bar Foundation Fellow
- Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Rated AV® Preeminent (a trademark of Internet Brands, Inc.)
- Recipient of an Amicus Curiae Award from the New Jersey State Bar Association (2024)
- Recipient of an Amicus Curiae Award from the New Jersey State Bar Association (2023)
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (a trademark of Woodward/White, Inc.) in the Insurance Law practice area (2016 – present)
- Listed in *New Jersey Super Lawyers* (a Thomson Reuters business) in the Health Care, Professional Liability: Defense and Insurance Coverage practice areas (2006, 2008 – present)

Please visit our Award Methodology page for a description of the standard or methodology on which these accolades are based. Attorney Advertising: No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Results may vary depending on your particular facts and legal circumstances.

- Obtained defense verdict for an attorney client in an eight-figure legal malpractice claim brought by a mortgage backed securities company engaged in mezzanine financing following the collapse of the real estate market. The case was based on an alleged conflict of interest when, while acting as outside general counsel to the company, the client assisted his friend, the former company CEO, in devaluing the company so it could be purchased at a steep discount.
- In an eight-figure workplace injury and death case, successfully negotiated the elimination of one of two \$1 million insurance policies for carrier client despite an adverse ruling from the trial court holding both policies covering.

Clerkships

Former Law Clerk to the Hon. Kevin M. O'Halloran, Superior Court Law Division, Bergen County (1983 -1984)

Robert B. Hille (Cont.)

- Successfully resolved a number of legal malpractice cases for a group of law firms following their loss of coverage. The loss occurred when their primary insurer collapsed after its reinsurer was forced into receivership because its direct lines business exceeded its book capacity to pay claims for those lines and subordinated its reinsurance obligations. Because the law firms' primary carrier was a reciprocal under federal law, the New Jersey courts ruled that there was no coverage under the state's guarantee fund.
- Developed an emergent coverage opinion to assist the general contractor of a New York City commercial tower when an uninsured and ultimately insolvent crane operator dropped a load of steel beams more than 40 stories, causing a project shut down and tens of millions of dollars in losses from the resulting project delay.
- Appointed by the New Jersey Supreme Court Chief Justice to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee on Attorney Malpractice Insurance. This two-year project culminating in a 171-page report examined whether legal malpractice insurance should be mandatory and resulted in changes in the law. The Committee's report was studied nationally with an appearance by Mr. Hille before a California court committee that was studying the same issue.
- While President of the New Jersey State Bar Association, successfully negotiated on its behalf with Governor Phil Murphy a renewal of the Bar's Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee (JPAC) Compact. The new version also expanded the role of county bar associations that had been eliminated by the prior administration in the review and advice process of Judicial and Prosecutorial candidates.
- Participated in the review of and recommendation of state judges and prosecutors as a member of the JPAC Committee.
- Obtained a seven-figure plaintiff's verdict in an automobile negligence and dram shop case.
- Obtained a seven-figure plaintiff's verdict in a wrongful death failure to assist case. The wrongful death concerned approximately \$850K in economic losses to children for their domestic servant mother, who was on life support for several weeks. The jury awarded approximately \$350K pain and suffering.

UNIQUELY NJ

- New Jersey State Bar Association; President (2017-2018); Health Law Section; Insurance Benefits Committee Chair; Amicus Committee; Malpractice Insurance Special Committee; Cannabis Law Special Committee; Task Force on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Law
- Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey; Third Circuit Committee
- Bergen County Bar Association (Past President)

MORE ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCE

- American Bar Association; Health Law Section; Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section
- Mr. Hille is a legal analyst on the Law & Crime Network, a Dan Abrams Production exploring current legal cases and stories that can be accessed on numerous broadcast, digital streaming and mobile platforms.

PRESENTATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Panelist, Ethics, The Court and The Bar - A Comprehensive Look at How the Ethics System Works

Sponsor: *New Jersey State Bar Association*, May 16, 2024

Panelist, How to Avoid Malpractice Risk by Being a Pro at Understanding Your Professional Liability Insurance

Sponsor: *New Jersey State Bar Association*, May 15, 2024

Presenter, The Crumbley Case and Parental Liability

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, May 3, 2024

Lecturer, 2024 NJSBA Virtual Spring Conference

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, March 7, 2024

Presenter, Ethics, Malpractice & Coverage

Sponsor: *Bergen County Bar Association*, December 5, 2023

Panelist, 5th Annual Corporate Counsel Symposium

Sponsor: *Essex County Bar Association*, November 28, 2023

Presenter, Malpractice Update: Carrier Concerns, Cybersecurity Threats, Starting a New Firm, Retiring from Practice

Sponsor: *Middlesex County Bar Association*, September 20, 2023

Presenter, The Challenges of Crisis Lawyering: Ethical and Practical Considerations for Handling Emergency Situations

Sponsor: *Association of Corporate Counsel New Jersey*, September 14, 2023

Speaker, The NJSBA Summer Conference

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, August 31, 2023

Speaker, 2023 Jeffrey P. Weinstein Family Law Summer Institute

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, July 25-26, 2023

Panelist, How to Handle and Mitigate a Crisis- Preparing for and Responding to What's Next

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, March 30, 2023

Speaker, The NJSBA Spring Conference

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, March 27, 2023

Panelist and Lecturer, The NJSBA Fall Conference – A Special One Day Virtual Event

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, November 21, 2022

Co-Presenter, The Federal Government is Taking Aim at PPP Loan and COVID Relief Payment Fraud: What ALL Healthcare Businesses That Received Pandemic Relief Funds Need to Know

Sponsor: *New Jersey Chapter – Healthcare Financial Management Association*, October 27, 2022

Co-Presenter, Risks from Serving More than One Master – Practicing Law Without a License, Outside Civil Exposure and Other Pitfalls for In-House Counsel

Sponsor: *Association of Corporate Counsel New Jersey*, September 13, 2022

Presenter, What ALL Business Owners Who Received Pandemic Relief Funds Need to Know about the Government's Crackdown on PPP Loan Fraud

Sponsor: *New Jersey Business & Industry Association*, June 29, 2022

Panelist, 2022 Construction Law Forum

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, June 28, 2022

Panelist, How to Ethically Close a Practice

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, May 11, 2022

Panelist, Breakfast with the Third Circuit Judges

Sponsor: *Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey*, April 29, 2022

Panelist, Wrestling with Stress and Ethical Challenges: Resilience Training in the Long-Haul for the Practice of Law

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education and Real Time CLE*, December 31, 2021

Panelist, Ethics Update 2021: Professional Liability, Trust Accounting, The Wilson Rule & Social Media

Sponsor: *Bergen County Bar Association*, December 8, 2021

Panelist, Misappropriation of Client Funds, the Recent Supreme Court Cases and Attorney Trust Accounting: How to Avoid the Mistakes that are Endangering the Careers of Experienced Lawyers

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, November 18, 2021

Speaker, Keeping Your Records & Keeping Your License: Recordkeeping, Misappropriation & Beyond

Sponsor: *Mercer County Bar Association*, October 14, 2021

Panelist, Civics for Legal Professionals

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, August 19, 2021

Panelist, Wrestling with Stress and Ethical Challenges – Resilience Training in the Long-Haul for the Practice of Law

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education, July 23, 2021*

Panelist, Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Ethics and Malpractice (and Some Things You Didn't Know You Needed)

Sponsor: *New Jersey State Bar Association Annual Meeting, May 19, 2021*

Lecturer, Professional Liability & Ethics Update

Sponsor: *Justice Robert L. Clifford Inn of Court, December 9, 2020*

Moderator and Lecturer, DAMAGED – Recovering and Measuring Business Losses Due to the Pandemic and other Unusual Occurrences

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education, December 4, 2020*

Panelist, The Latest on Motions in Limine

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education, October 27, 2020*

Speaker, Insurance Coverage Issues and Defending Your Rights in the Age of COVID-19

Sponsor: *Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP, NJ Hospital Association, NJ Healthcare Financial Management Association, Medical Society of NJ, and NJ Dental Association, July 1, 2020*

Panelist, Not Worth the Gamble: What Every Lawyer Should Know About Ethics and Malpractice

Sponsor: *New Jersey State Bar Association 2020 Annual Meeting and Convention, May 13, 2020*

Presenter, Malpractice Update: Carrier Concerns, Starting a New Firm, Retiring from Practice

Sponsor: *Middlesex County Bar Association, May 8, 2020*

Moderator, Small Businesses and the Impact of COVID-19

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education, April 15, 2020*

Moderator, COVID-19 FALLOUT: How Does My Business Survive?

Sponsor: *Withum, April 8, 2020*

PUBLICATIONS & ALERTS

Author, New Jersey Supreme Court “Wade Committee” Recommends Pathway to Readmission for Attorneys Following Disbarment

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, July 17, 2023

Co-Author, Health Care Providers Should Note Court's Clarification on Jury Waiver

New Jersey Law Journal, March 13, 2023

Author, LexisNexis Practice Guide: New Jersey Pretrial Practice
LexisNexis, 2022 Edition

Author, LexisNexis Practice Guide: New Appleman New Jersey Insurance Law
LexisNexis, 2022 Edition

Author, LexisNexis Practice Guide: New Jersey Pleadings
LexisNexis, 2022 Edition

Co-Author, Eighth Circuit Imposes New “But-For” Causation Standard for False Claims Act Cases Premised on Anti-Kickback Violations, Causes Circuit Court Split
Garden State Focus, Winter 2022

Co-Author, Eighth Circuit Imposes Stricter Causation Standard for FCA Cases Premised on Anti-Kickback Violations
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, November 15, 2022

Co-Author, Eighth Circuit Imposes “But-For” Causation Standard for False Claims Act Cases Premised on Anti-Kickback Violations, Causes Circuit Court Split
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, November 15, 2022

Co-Author, DOJ Announces COVID-19 Fraud Strike Force Teams; Targets PPP Lender as Government Enforcement Actions Continue to Escalate
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, October 5, 2022

Co-Author, Feds Target Fraud In Telemedicine Arrangements
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, July 28, 2022

Author, DOJ Enforcement Actions Alleging PPP Loan and Healthcare-Related COVID-19 Fraud Continue to Rise
NJHFMA Garden State FOCUS, Summer 2022

Co-Author, An Update on DOJ Enforcement Actions Alleging PPP Loan and Healthcare-Related COVID-19 Fraud
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, July 3, 2022

Author, DOJ and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies Coordinate Efforts in Expanded Pursuit of Healthcare-Related COVID-19 Fraud
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, June 20, 2022

Quoted, With 'In re Wilson' Under the Microscope, Ethics Experts Say Disbarment Rule Needs More Nuance
New Jersey Law Journal, June 17, 2022

Author, NJ Supreme Court to Reconsider Permanency of Disbarment for Attorneys; Greenbaum Partner Robert B. Hille Argues the Cause for NJ State Bar as Amicus Curiae
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, June 13, 2022

Co-Author, U.S. Department of Justice Takes Aim at Extensive PPP Loan Fraud: Is Focusing its Lens on the Construction Industry
Dimensions, Spring 2022

Co-Author, U.S. Department of Justice Takes Aim at Extensive PPP Loan Fraud
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, April 12, 2022

Co-Author, New Jersey's Veterans Diversion Program
New Jersey Lawyer, February 2022

Quoted, NJ Bar Aims To Limit Disbarment Rule For Misusing Funds
Law 360, September 27, 2021

Author, Effective Communication and How Not to Write Like A Lawyer
New Jersey Lawyer, April 2021

Co-Author, An Overview of The American Rescue Plan
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, March 24, 2021

Co-Author, Second Emergency Stimulus Bill Provides \$100 Billion in Additional Funding to Further Support COVID-19 Treatment and Testing
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, April 27, 2020

Author, Title V and Title VI of the CARES Act: Coronavirus Relief Funds and Selected Provisions including Emergency Appropriations
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP, April 1, 2020

Co-Author, Title III of the CARES Act: Supporting America's Health Care System in the Fight Against the Coronavirus
Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, March 31, 2020

Author, New Jersey Pleadings
LexisNexis Practice Guide

Co-Author, New Jersey Pretrial Practice
LexisNexis Practice Guide

Co-Author, New Appleman New Jersey Insurance Law
LexisNexis Practice Guide

Author, Will Technology Replace Claims Professionals?

International Association of Claim Professionals Declarations 2017-2018 Year in Review, October 19, 2018

Author, Will Technology Replace Claims Professionals?

International Association of Claim Professionals Declarations Year in Review, 2017-2018

Quoted, The Many Pitfalls of Portability and 'Borderless' Practice

New Jersey Law Journal, June 8, 2016

Co-Author, Extrapolation Nation: The Recent Challenges to the Use of Governmental Audit Sampling

American Bar Association Health Law Section, Vol. 10 No. 12

Author, Combating Fraud - Statutory Weapons in an Insurer's Arsenal

Litigation Management Magazine, Winter 2012

Author, Is a Captive Right for You?

NJHFMA's Garden State Focus Magazine, January/February 2012, vol 58, num 4, January 1, 2012

Author, Settlement and Legal Malpractice Claims: Can You Accomplish One While Avoiding the Other?

New Jersey Law Journal, November 1, 2010

Chapter Author, Chapter 3: The Contractual Relationship, New Appleman on Insurance Law Library Edition

Lexis Nexis Matthew Bender, June 2009

Chapter Author, Burden of Proof; Trial Motions and Judgement; Post-Trial Application

LexisNexis Practice Guide, New Jersey Trial, Post Trial and Appellate Proceedings, 2007 Edition, May 2007

Author, GATS' Threat to the Legal Profession is Worth a Serious Look

New Jersey Law Journal, September 29, 2003

Author, The Coming Storm (The Changing Nature of Risk)

Journal of Reinsurance Intermediaries and Underwriters, June 2003

Author, Ambush! Employee Vulnerability to Aggressive Criminal Investigations. How to Respond?

Bergen Medicine, Bergen County Medical Society, Spring 2001, April 1, 2001

NEWS

Thirty-Four Attorneys from Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis Selected for Inclusion in 2024 Edition of New Jersey Super Lawyers

March 26, 2024

Greenbaum Partner Robert B. Hille Recognized by New Jersey State Bar Association with Amicus Curiae Award

January 16, 2024

2024 Edition of *Best Lawyers* Recognizes 59 Attorneys in 38 Practice Areas: Twelve Greenbaum Lawyers Recognized on “Ones to Watch” List; Five Selected for “Lawyer of the Year” Recognition
August 17, 2023

New Jersey State Bar Association Recognizes Two Greenbaum Partners with Amicus Curiae Awards
January 17, 2023

2023 Edition of *Best Lawyers* Recognizes 51 Attorneys in 36 Practice Areas: Nine Greenbaum Lawyers Recognized on “Ones to Watch” List; Seven Selected for “Lawyer of the Year” Recognition
August 18, 2022