

## John D. North

PARTNER / CHAIR, LITIGATION DEPARTMENT

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*I love trying cases. It never gets old. The challenge, the human dynamic, the pressure, the hard work and effort, the novelty of each case. I really can't imagine doing anything else.*

Mr. North focuses his practice in litigation, with an emphasis on trial practice. He has tried jury and non-jury cases in state and federal courts, including over 75 jury cases to verdict. He is certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Civil Trial Attorney.

A significant portion of Mr. North's practice is devoted to the defense of catastrophic injury and other high exposure cases in the areas of toxic torts, negligence, public entity liability and professional liability, including the defense of attorneys, accountants and insurance brokers.

Mr. North's practice also concentrates in the representation of commercial and residential real estate developers in connection with design and construction defect litigation, as well as the defense of claims brought under New Jersey's Planned Real Estate Development Full Disclosure Act and Consumer Fraud Act.

Additionally, he has represented major banks and financial institutions in connection with lender liability claims and matters involving negotiable instruments and financial fraud.

Mr. North is the author of the evidence treatise **A Trial Lawyer's Strategic Guide to the New Jersey Rules of Evidence**, and is a principal author of **Business and Commercial Litigation in Federal Courts**, contributing the chapter in the treatise devoted to Medical Malpractice. He also contributed the chapter on statutory disclosure requirements in **Winning Legal Strategies for Construction Law**. He has lectured throughout the

### Departments

Litigation  
Healthcare  
Employment Law

### Practice Groups

Banking & Financial Services  
Litigation  
Community Association  
Construction Disputes  
Higher Education

### Education

University of Maryland School  
of Law, J.D. with honors, 1977  
Lehigh University, B.A. with  
high honors, 1971

### Bar Admissions

New Jersey, 1977  
U.S. District Court, District of  
New Jersey, 1977  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Third  
Circuit, 1985

state on evidence and trial practice.

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

## HONORS & AWARDS

- International Academy of Trial Lawyers Fellow
- American College of Trial Lawyers Fellow
- American Board of Trial Advocates
- Litigation Counsel of America Senior Fellow, Order of Centruions Barrister, Order of Certus Advocate
- Recipient of the Trial Bar Award from the Trial Attorneys of New Jersey for his distinguished service in the cause of justice (2019)
- Recipient of the Professional Lawyer of the Year Award from the Trial Attorneys of New Jersey and the New Jersey Commission on Professionalism in the Law (2016)
- Listed in *Chambers USA* (a publication of Chambers and Partners) in the Litigation: General Commercial and Construction practice areas (2011 – present)
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (a trademark of Woodward/White, Inc.) in the Bet-the-Company Litigation, Litigation - Banking and Finance, Commercial Litigation and Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs practice areas (2010 – present)
- Selected by *Best Lawyers*® (a trademark of Woodward/White, Inc.) as Woodbridge "Lawyer of the Year" in Bet-the-Company Litigation (2022, 2013)
- Listed in *New Jersey Super Lawyers* (a Thomson Reuters business) in the Civil Litigation: Defense, Banking, and Personal Injury - General: Plaintiff practice areas (2005 – present); listed as one of *Super Lawyers' Top 100 Attorneys in New Jersey* (2010, 2011, 2019)
- Listed as a Local Litigation Star in New Jersey in *Benchmark Litigation* (a publication of Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC) in the Bankruptcy, Construction, and General Commercial practice areas (2016 – present)
- Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Rated AV® Preeminent (a trademark of Internet Brands, Inc.) (1990 – 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 a \$26.2 million plaintiff's verdict in a products liability "crashworthiness" case
- Ongoing representation of an industrial product manufacturer in multiple mass tort, personal injury and natural resource damage (NRD) matters involving PFAS "forever" chemicals
- Representation of nursing home facilities in connection with 8-figure settlement of multiple COVID-related wrongful death claims and ongoing representation with 42 consolidated employee claims
- Represented a major bank in a construction loan matter involving complex "lender liability" defenses and counterclaims. Obtained a jury verdict rejecting "lender liability" claims and judgment in favor of the bank for all amounts due on the construction loan
- Representation of financial services clients in connection with environmental claims arising out of mortgage transactions and Other Real Estate Owned properties
- Successfully represented a managing general agent in a contractual dispute with an insurance carrier involving both injunctive relief in federal court and 9-figure damage claims in arbitration
- Successfully defended a major real estate developer in a six month jury trial involving claims by a condominium owners' association for \$200 million based on allegations of construction defects, financial misrepresentations and consumer fraud
- Represented condominium association in matter involving claims against developer for alleged construction and design defects, as well as alleged financial misrepresentations. Obtained an 8-figure settlement at trial
- In the first case decided under New Jersey's elder financial abuse reporting law, obtained a ruling in a non-jury trial that the client financial institution had acted properly, and that the statute did not impose an affirmative regulatory obligation on financial institutions
- After an adverse summary judgment in a multi-million dollar matter arising out of the termination of commercial land leases, obtained a reversal on appeal, with a direction from the appellate court to the trial court that the adverse judgment be vacated and judgment entered in favor of client financial institution

## UNIQUELY NJ

- Trial Attorneys of New Jersey (President, 2012)
- New Jersey State Bar Association
- Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey
- New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on Jury Selection in Civil and Criminal Trials (2010 – 2013)

## MORE ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCE

- Million Dollar Advocates Forum
- American Association for Justice
- Trial Law Institute
- Diversity Law Institute

## PRESENTATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Moderator/Panelist, A Day on Evidence

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, March 22, 2024

Moderator/Panelist, A Day on Evidence

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, March 24, 2023

Panelist, Trial Advocacy Summer Institute

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, 7.14-15.22

Moderator/Panelist, A Day on Evidence

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, April 8, 2022

Speaker, Trial Advocacy Summer Institute

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, 7/16-17/20

Presenter, Construction Defect Litigation and Insurance Coverage: What You Must Know and Do

Sponsor: *The Knowledge Group*, May 20, 2020

Moderator/Panelist, A Day on Evidence

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, April 17, 2020

Presenter, Addressing and Managing Risks in Construction Insurance: Best Practices

Sponsor: *The Knowledge Group*, April 15, 2020

Presenter, Construction Risk Management: Current Issues and Pitfalls Explored!

Sponsor: *The Knowledge Group*, September 24, 2019

Speaker, Appellate Litigation: What Lies Ahead in 2019 and Beyond

Sponsor: *The Knowledge Group*, April 10, 2019

Speaker, Current Developments on the Admissibility of Expert Testimony in New Jersey: *Daubert*, *In Re Accutane*, *Townsend v. Pierre* and Beyond

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, March 14, 2019

Speaker, Current Developments on the Admissibility of Expert Testimony in New Jersey: *Daubert, In Re Accutane, Townsend v. Pierre* and Beyond

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, February 21, 2019

Presenter, Appellate Litigation: What to Watch Out For in 2018 and Beyond

Sponsor: *The Knowledge Group*, November 15, 2018

Speaker, Civil Trial Advocacy Summer Institute

Sponsor: *NJ Institute for Continuing Legal Education and the American College of Trial Lawyers*, July 12-13, 2018

Speaker, Lender Liability: Tips and Strategies in Avoiding Claims and Other Risks in 2018 and Beyond

Sponsor: *The Knowledge Group*, June 7, 2018

Speaker, A Day on Evidence

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, April 20, 2018

Presenter, Avoiding Lender Liability Claims: Best Practices for Your Firm

Sponsor: *The Knowledge Group*, April 17, 2018

Speaker, The Appellate Litigation Landscape: What Lies Ahead in 2018 and Beyond

Sponsor: *The Knowledge Group*, December 14, 2017

Presenter, Environmental Lender Liability: Identifying Risks and Opportunities

Sponsor: *The Knowledge Group*, September 26, 2017

Speaker, Lender Liability: Avoiding Claims and Other Risks in 2017 and Beyond

Sponsor: *The Knowledge Group*, March 31, 2017

Panelist, Evidence 2016: The Most Recent Rules & Case Law Developments Affecting Demonstrative, Eyewitness & Electronic Evidence

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, December 3, 2016

Speaker, Civil Trial Advocacy Summer Institute 2016

Sponsor: *American College of Trial Lawyers and New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, July 11-12, 2016

Panelist, 2015 Community Association Law Summit

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education, in cooperation with the New Jersey State Bar Association Real Property, Trust & Estate Law Section and the Community Associations Institute – New Jersey Chapter*, November 18, 2015

Speaker, Tools of the Trade: The Top Procedural Devices for Trial Lawyers - Strategies that Get Results

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, August 27, 2015

Moderator, How Rusty Is Your Boilerplate

An Examination of Recent Litigation Results Under Standard Provisions in Commercial and Consumer Contracts

Sponsor: *New Jersey Corporate Counsel Association*, September 19, 2014

Lecturer on trial technique

Sponsor: *American Board of Trial Advocates "Masters In Trial" program*, August 26, 2014

Speaker, Tools of the Trade: Procedural Devices Available to the Trial Lawyer

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, Summer 2014

Civil Trial Advocacy Summer Institute

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education in cooperation with the American College of Trial Lawyers*, July 8, 2014 - July 9, 2014

Speaker, Evidence Issues

Sponsor: *Haydn Proctor Inn of Court in the Monmouth County Vicinage*, February 12, 2014

Speaker, Ethics & Social Media: What Attorneys Need to Know

Sponsor: *National Business Institute*, December 19, 2013

Speaker, Strategies to Reduce Litigation Costs and Improve Results

Sponsor: *New Jersey Corporate Counsel Association Annual All-Day Conference*, September 23, 2011

Speaker, Strategies to Reduce Litigation Costs and Improve Results

Sponsor: *Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP In-House Counsel CLE Program*, May 10, 2011

Presenter, Settlement of Lawsuits - The Pitfalls That Can Be Encountered and How To Avoid Them

Sponsor: *Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Continuing Legal Education Seminar*, December 26, 2010

Lecturer on evidence issues

Sponsor: *New Jersey Judicial College*, August 26, 2009

## **PUBLICATIONS & ALERTS**

Co-Author, Proposed Legislative Expansion of Categories of Wrongful Death Damages in New Jersey Could Have Far-Reaching Implications

*Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert*, April 2018

Co-Author, Appellate Division Ruling in Construction Defect Case Highlights Importance of Timely Expert Testimony and Adherence to Discovery Schedules

*Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert*, April 2018

Author, **Business and Commercial Litigation in Federal Courts**

*Medical Malpractice Chapter: Thomson Reuters and ABA Section of Litigation, Fourth Edition (2017)*

Author, **A Trial Lawyer's Strategic Guide to the New Jersey Rules of Evidence**

*New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education (2013)*

Quoted, NJ High Court Poised to Reshape Arbitration Disputes

*Law360.com*, August 13, 2015

Quoted, NJ Justices Avoid Tumult By OK'ing Recall Of Retired Judges

*Law360.com*, July 30, 2015

Quoted, 6 Expert Witness Mistakes to Avoid

*TheExpertWitness.com*, November 17, 2014

Quoted, Attys Get Cover to Collaborate Under NJ Privilege Ruling

*Law360.com*, July 26, 2014

Author, The Impact of Statutory Disclosure Requirements on Construction Litigation

*Winning Legal Strategies for Construction Law (Aspatore Books, 2007)*

Author, Shifting Check Fraud Losses From Banks to Businesses Under Recent Revisions to Uniform Commercial Code

*Metropolitan Corporate Counsel (1996)*

## NEWS

2024 *Chambers USA* Guide Ranks Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis in Key Practice Areas and Recognizes

20 Attorneys as Leading Individuals

June 6, 2024

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

March 26, 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

2023 *Chambers USA* Guide Ranks Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis in Key Practice Areas and Recognizes 22 Attorneys as Leading Individuals

June 9, 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