Volume 19 • Number 6

RAWLE'S REPORTS

THE NATION'S OLDEST LAW OFFICE

RAWLE & HENDERSON LLP

2015 SUPER LAWYERS

Rawle & Henderson LLP is pleased to announce that 13 attorneys have been selected as **2015 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers** by *Law & Politics* and the publishers of *Philadelphia Magazine*. The process started with thousands of ballots being sent to attorneys in Pennsylvania. Then practice-specific "Blue Ribbon" panels reviewed the selections and listed the nominees with the highest scores. The attorneys chosen represent the top 5% of attorneys in Pennsylvania.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Claudio J. DiPaolo, Chair of the firm's Workers' Compensation Section, has practiced insurance defense litigation for nearly 20 years, with a concentration in workers' compensation litigation. He has defended workers' compensation matters on behalf of self-insured corporations, insurance carriers, third party administrators and various political entities. He has also handled a wide variety of matters, including employment, commercial motor vehicle, products liability, premises liability, insurance coverage, errors & omissions, and medical malpractice. Claudio has made presentations to clients nationwide on workers' compensation topics, including the interplay between workers' compensation and other laws and its effects on business enterprises. He has counseled clients regarding compliance with federal, state, and local laws, and preventing workers' compensation liability for workplace injuries. He has been successful in recovering workers' compensation costs for clients through subrogation, errors & omissions, special fund reimbursements, and various other statutory credits. Claudio is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New York, as well as the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

CIVIL LITIGATION

Daniel J. Rucket concentrates his practice in general casualty defense litigation, including construction site accidents, premises liability, catastrophic injury, construction defects, products liability, stucco home water infiltration claims, motor vehicle accidents, subrogation defense, and general negligence. He graduated from the William & Mary Law School in 1993 and subsequently clerked for the Honorable Albert R. Subers in the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. Dan is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania, the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Middle Districts of Pennsylvania, and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. Prior to being named Super Lawyer from 2010 through 2015, he was selected as a Pennsylvania Rising Star in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

www.rawle.com

Philadelphia, PA
215. 575. 4200
Fax 215. 563. 2583

New York City, NY
212. 323. 7070
Fax 212. 323. 7099

Long Island, NY
516. 294. 2001
Fax 516. 294. 2006

Marlton, NJ
856. 596. 4800
Fax 856. 596. 6164

Pittsburgh, PA
412. 261. 5700
Fax 412. 261. 5710

Harrisburg, PA
717. 234. 7700
Fax 717. 234. 7710

Wilmington, DE
302. 778. 1200
Fax 302. 778. 1400

Wheeling, WV
304. 232. 1203
Fax 304. 232. 1205

@1783Rawle

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & TOXIC TORTS

A practicing trial attorney for 37 years, **Peter J. Neeson** is Chair of the Environmental Law and Toxic Torts Sections. He has been involved in numerous toxic tort matters in multi-district litigation and class action cases in both state and federal courts, including benzene, underground storage tank, silica, orthopedic bone screw and asbestos litigation among others. Peter has been selected as National Coordinating Counsel in the FRT, asbestos, latex glove and PPA drug litigation. In 2007, he served as Chair of TIPS (Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section of the ABA). In 2012, Peter received the prestigious TIPS James K. Carroll Leadership Award in part for his efforts in founding the TIPS Trial and Leadership Academies. Since 2009, Mr. Neeson has been a member of the Board of Directors of the National Judicial College, the organization which trains the country's state court judges. He now serves as Chairman of the Board. He has been rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell.

John C. McMeekin II represents clients as local, national and trial counsel in environmental, toxic and mass torts product and related class actions, products liability, insurance coverage and aviation litigation. He graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Baltimore School of Law. John is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland and related U.S. District Courts. John is a former firefighter and emergency medical technician, and is Hazmat certified. He has been published in professional and law review journals on a variety of topics related to toxic tort and environmental litigation. His significant cases can be found in the *BNA Law Reports* and *Law 360*. He is a past Chair of the ABA TIPS Toxic Tort & Environmental Law Committee and International Law Committee, Chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association Environmental and Toxic Tort Law Committee, and serves as Revenue Officer and a member of the ABA TIPS Council. He is a member of the firm's Executive Committee.

TRANSPORTATION

Timothy J. Abeel is Chair of the Commercial Motor Vehicle Section and has defended transportation companies in the state and federal courts of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and Delaware for more than 30 years. Tim graduated, *magna cum laude,* from the State University of New York at Albany and received his J.D. from the Temple University School of Law. Tim was one of the founders of the Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA) and he served as President of TIDA in 2000-2001. From 1994 to 2003, he was a member of the TIDA Board of Directors. His clients include some of the largest transportation companies and insurers of commercial motor vehicles in the United States. He is a member of the Executive Committee of Rawle & Henderson LLP. Tim has been rated AV Preeminent and has been selected as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer for 12 consecutive years.

MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

Charles A. Fitzpatrick, III, has extensive experience defending medical malpractice, nursing home liability, pharmaceutical and catastrophic injury cases. He has tried over 100 cases to verdict. Charles is a member of the bar of Pennsylvania and is admitted to practice in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. He is a graduate of St. Joseph's University and the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania. He served in the United States Navy, achieving the rank of Lieutenant. Charles has lectured extensively to attorneys and physicians on the law of medical malpractice. He has been rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell. He was chosen as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer for the 12th consecutive year.

PRODUCT LIABILITY

Thomas A. Kuzmick is Chair of the Product Liability Section and his practice has concentrated on product liability and catastrophic injury litigation for over 30 years. He has tried in excess of 50 cases to verdict in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, most of which included damages of seven and eight figures. Clients regularly retain Tom shortly before trial to defend catastrophic injury cases. He is frequently invited by legal and manufacturing organizations both locally and internationally to lecture on product liability litigation. Over his career he has been designated as coordinating counsel in product liability and toxic tort litigation for several clients throughout the United States. He has been designated Liability Catastrophic Injury Counsel (LCIC) for a major international insurance carrier. He has been rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. Tom has been selected as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer for 12 consecutive years, 2004-2015. He has been a member of the Firm's Executive Committee since 1994.

Jack Snyder, Chair of the Catastrophic Loss and Medical Professional Liability Sections, focuses his practice on the defense of catastrophic losses, with emphasis on construction, industrial, pharmaceutical, medical malpractice and product liability matters. He is regularly retained in high exposure cases (demands commonly in the $30 million to $80 million range), often weeks to several months before trial, to try a case to verdict. He successfully defended Ride The Ducks International in the maritime litigation arising out of the allision of a tug-driven barge and a tourist duck boat on the Delaware River in 2010. He is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. For six years, Jack was a Hearing Committee member of the Disciplinary Board of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. He was also liaison counsel to the Medical Care Availability & Reduction of Error Fund (M-Care), formerly CAT Fund, on behalf of physicians in the Philadelphia Phen-Fen litigation. Jack is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. He has been rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell.

PREMISES LIABILITY/CONSTRUCTION

John H. McCarthy has more than 25 years of litigation experience and focuses his practice on the defense of premises liability and construction accident claims. He serves as regional and local counsel for insured and self-insured clients including universities, colleges, general contractors, subcontractors, owners, convenience markets and hotels. John is a *cum laude* graduate of the Villanova University School of Law where he served as an Editor of the *Villanova Law Review*. He has published numerous articles on developments in premises liability and construction law. John has been rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. He has repeatedly been recognized as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer since the program's inception in 2004.

APPELLATE

Carl D. Buchholz, III, is Chair of the Maritime, Insurance Coverage and Appellate Sections. His federal appellate practice includes an argument before the United States Supreme Court as well as numerous arguments before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. His state appellate practice includes seven arguments before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, as well as over 35 oral arguments before the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court and Pennsylvania Superior Court. From 2006–2012, Mr. Buchholz served as a member of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, including a term as Board Chair. Prior to his appointment to the Disciplinary Board, Carl served a six-year term as Chair and Board Member of the Pennsylvania Lawyers Fund for Client Security. In 2010, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court designated Carl as Chair of the Disciplinary Board. He has been rated AV Preeminent and has been selected as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer for the last 12 years.

CIVIL LITIGATION

Fred B. Buck, Chair of the firm's Professional Liability Section, has been an active litigator and trial lawyer for over 30 years. He has represented clients in high exposure cases in many diverse areas of the law including general negligence, civil rights, product liability, professional liability, commercial motor vehicle, and construction site accidents. He has tried many jury and nonjury cases in the Courts of Common Pleas of Philadelphia, Berks, Bucks, Delaware, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Pike and York Counties as well as in the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Middle Districts of Pennsylvania. He has argued appeals in the Pennsylvania Appellate Courts and in the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Fred is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is an adjunct professor of law at the Villanova University School of Law.

Maureen E. Daley has nearly 20 years of trial experience and she has successfully litigated cases in the state and federal courts. In addition to an active trial practice, she serves as a *Judge Pro Tempore* for the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, a private arbitrator and mediator. She devotes her practice to the defense of corporate entities including commercial motor vehicle matters, products and premise liability, and insurance coverage matters. In addition, she has provided support and representation in all facets of employment relations matters and municipal law. She is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New York as well as the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Middle Districts of Pennsylvania. She has been admitted *pro hac vice* in the states of Delaware, Georgia and Tennessee. Maureen was recognized as a Rising Star in 2007 and was designated as Super Lawyer this year for the 8th straight year.

John T. Donovan concentrates his practice on premises liability, product liability, catastrophic injury, toxic tort and construction law matters. He is admitted to practice in the federal and state courts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. John has tried dozens of cases to verdict in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He has been designated Liability Catastrophic Injury Counsel (LCIC) for a major international insurance carrier. He graduated *cum laude* from Lafayette College and received a J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law where he was elected Vice President of his class. John has taught at Rutgers University School of Law (Camden) and currently serves on the adjunct faculty at Villanova School of Law. In addition, he volunteers on behalf of the Support Center for Child Advocates and chairs the firm's Child Advocacy Practice Group.

Rawle's Reports is a monthly client newsletter of Rawle & Henderson LLP with recent case law updates. If you would like hard copies of past issues, or would like to request PDF copies from us, please email info@rawle.com. Past issues are also available and downloadable from our website, www.rawle.com.

© 2015 Rawle & Henderson LLP