

HOWARD MANKOFF

SENIOR COUNSEL



AREAS OF PRACTICE

Miscellaneous Professional Liability
Employment Law
Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation
Consumer Financial Services Litigation & Compliance
Insurance Agents & Brokers Liability
Real Estate E&O Liability
Lawyers' Professional Liability
Accountants' Professional Liability
Disciplinary Board Representation

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ADMISSIONS

New Jersey
1981

U.S. District Court of New Jersey
1981

U.S. Court of Appeals 3rd Circuit
1985

OVERVIEW

Over more than 30 years, Howard has built a successful legal practice which focuses on professional liability defense, employment litigation and public entity liability defense. He has represented lawyers, accountants, real estate professionals, directors and officers. A respected trial lawyer, Howard has handled hundreds of professional malpractice claims and has tried over 100 of them to verdict, a majority of which sided with the defense. In a precedent-setting decision before the Third Circuit, Howard successfully argued that a municipality can exclude houses of worship in order to facilitate economic redevelopment. He also has extensive experience defending cases brought under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

In 1978 Howard received his undergraduate degree from American University, with honors. He then received his law degree from Rutgers University in 1981.

EDUCATION

Rutgers, The State University of
New Jersey School of Law-
Camden (J.D., 1981)

American University (B.A., cum
laude, 1978)

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Insurance Agents, Do Not Fail to Read This!

Roseland
Insurance Agents & Brokers Liability
June 1, 2020

Edited by Timothy G. The material in this law alert has been prepared for our readers by Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin.

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

What Insurance Claims Professionals Need in Order to Make the Process More Effective,
December 2011

Risk Management Seminar, CNA, 2003

School Bully Laws

Trends in Directors and Officers Litigation

Counsel Fee Exposure in Employment Litigation

Electronic Discovery Issues

Mock Trial of Employment Suit

HONORS & AWARDS

AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale-Hubbell®

The Martindale Hubbell rated attorney list is issued by Internet Brands, Inc. A description of the selection methodology can be found [here](#). No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

New Jersey Super Lawyer
2006, 2008

The Super Lawyers list is issued by Thomson Reuters. A description of the selection methodology can be found [here](#). No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

American Bar Association

New Jersey State Bar Association

Professional Liability Underwriters Society

Richard J. Hughes Inn of Court

Ethics Committee, Essex County

YEAR JOINED

1992

PUBLISHED WORKS

"Land Use Litigation – Trends, Exposures and Moral Hazards," *Defense Digest*, Vol. 22, No. 3, September 2016

"Electronic Discovery: The Final Frontier," *Defense Digest*, Vol. 11, No. 1, March 2005

"Revised Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Create New Problems for Defendants," *Defense Digest*, Fall 1994

LEGAL TEACHING POSITION

Guest lecturer at Hofstra University Law School, 2012

RESULTS

Successful defense of religious denomination in ecclesiastical dispute.

Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation

November 10, 2022

We were granted summary judgment in a case involving a dispute between a religious denomination (our client), and one of its local churches. The client invoked its judicial process, allowing it to assume control of a local church due to declining membership. The pastor of the local church refused to vacate the parsonage. The local church asserted the denomination lacked the authority to assume control over it and argued that it was never actually part of the larger denomination.

Successful representation of attorney at center of ethics investigation.

Disciplinary Board Representation

November 1, 2022

Our client represented a plaintiff in a personal injury action. The personal injury plaintiff had signed a lien letter, agreeing to repay her physical therapist from the proceeds of the personal injury claim. After the case settled, our client reimbursed the physical therapist for less than the amount billed by the therapist, who filed the ethics complaint. We successfully argued that our client was representing the best interests of his client, who claimed the bills were excessive. By doing so, the attorney increased the recovery for his client.

Successful representation of attorney sued by former client.

Lawyers' Professional Liability

February 16, 2022

We successfully represented an attorney who was sued by a former client after representing that client in a personal injury action. The plaintiff alleged the attorney failed to file suit within the time allowed by the Statute of Limitations. We argued in our summary judgment motion that the attorney sent two letters to the plaintiff, advising that the attorney would not file suit and further informing the plaintiff when the Statute of Limitations would expire.

New Jersey Appellate Division affirms dismissal of plaintiff's gender discrimination and workers' comp retaliation claims.

Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation

Appellate Advocacy & Post-Trial Practice

August 13, 2021

Our defense team was successful before the New Jersey Appellate Division. The plaintiff is a former employee of a non-profit agency that provides services to disabled individuals. She filed suit against her former employer and its manager, alleging gender discrimination and retaliation for filing a workers' compensation claim. As discovery progressed, thousands of pages of discovery were exchanged, which demonstrated that legitimate, long-standing performance deficiencies were the actual basis for her termination.

Summary judgment for dentist in employment case.

Miscellaneous Professional Liability

May 7, 2021

We obtained summary judgment on behalf of a dentist who sold her practice in an employment and contract claim. The plaintiff, also a dentist, was employed by our client. He claimed his contract automatically renewed, and that he was entitled to two years of pay. The plaintiff also claimed he was entitled to be compensated because our client allegedly prevented him from taking records of patients he was treating.