

MICHAEL A. SEBASTIAN

SHAREHOLDER



AREAS OF PRACTICE

Workers' Compensation

CONTACT INFO

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Moosic, PA 18507

ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania
1991

U.S. District Court Middle District
of Pennsylvania

EDUCATION

Widener University School of Law
(J.D., 1991)

University of Scranton (B.S., 1988)

HONORS & AWARDS

The Best Lawyers in America®,
Workers' Compensation Law -
Employers
2023-2025

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Lackawanna County Bar
Association

Pennsylvania Bar Association,
Workers' Compensation Section

YEAR JOINED

2021

OVERVIEW

Michael concentrates his practice on defending workers' compensation claims. He represents employers, insurance carriers and third-party administrators, working together with his clients to achieve their desired result.

With more than 20 years of experience, Michael has appeared on behalf of his clients before many local judges, the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, the Commonwealth Court and the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. In addition to litigating claims, Michael counsels clients on implementing risk management strategies that focus on lowering workers' compensation costs and avoiding liability exposure.

Michael is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Workers' Compensation Section and the Lackawanna County Bar Association.

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

Protecting Against Unreasonable Medical Expenses and Fee Reviews, Marshall Dennehey
Workers' Compensation Seminar, October 27, 2022

RESULTS

Claim Petition Denied in a Case Involving Work-Related Cervical Injury

Workers' Compensation

December 13, 2024

We received a decision denying a claim petition that alleged the claimant suffered a work-related cervical injury on June 29, 2023. The claimant testified that he felt a snap but did not feel the pain right away and continued to work until July 17, 2023. He then went to the emergency room and subsequently had surgery on July 20, 2023. During cross-examination, the claimant agreed he only suffered a cervical injury, not a low back injury.

Favorable Decision Dismissing Claim Petition Involving an Alleged Work From Home Injury

Workers' Compensation

July 30, 2024

We received a favorable decision dismissing a Claim Petition involving a claimant who alleged injuries from working at home on the couch. Mike submitted the claimant's testimony from third-party litigation demonstrating conflicts with her testimony in the workers' compensation case to impact her credibility. He also emphasized the claimant's pre-existing condition, even though she told her medical expert that she was asymptomatic, as the claimant had been receiving chiropractic care for 38 years.

Successful Defense of Claim Petition

Workers' Compensation

February 2, 2023

We defended a Claim Petition, successfully proving that a claimant's injury was not work-related. After a thorough investigation and review of the medical records, we were able to present witnesses and evidence that confirmed that the alleged injury had gone unreported and was inconsistent with the mechanism of injury. The Workers' Compensation Judge found our witnesses credible that the claimant did not report his knee condition as work-related.