



Ryan Richman

**Chair, Products Liability, Mass Torts & Consumer Class Actions Practice | Partner
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Products Liability, Mass Torts & Consumer Class Actions | Pharmaceutical & Medical Device Litigation | Class Action & Multidistrict Litigation | Environment & Energy Litigation | Appellate | Manufacturing | Construction & Real Estate Litigation

Ryan Richman is a highly experienced litigator, valued by clients for his deep knowledge of New Jersey state and federal courts, his pragmatic and sound business advice, and his proven ability to favorably resolve high-stakes complex commercial, products liability, personal injury and construction related litigations.

Ryan Richman is a trial lawyer who focuses his practice on product liability, toxic tort, environmental liability, complex commercial litigation, and catastrophic personal injury cases.

Ryan chairs McCarter's Products Liability, Mass Torts & Consumer Class Actions practice. He has substantial products liability experience, involving both single-plaintiff and mass tort and class action claims against manufacturers and service providers in a variety of industries, ranging from pharmaceutical companies to construction materials and equipment manufacturers. Ryan has experience defending industrial machinery (*i.e.* aerial work platforms, cranes, fork lift attachments and paving machines), consumer products (*i.e.* lamps, motorcycle gloves, roofing shingles, tables, toilets and water supply connectors), pharmaceutical products (*i.e.* anti-depressant medications and talcum powder), contaminants (PFAS), and asbestos (flooring materials, pool heaters, ships, and valves).

He is equally skilled in defending high-value personal injury, wrongful death claims, premises liability and dram-shop actions, experience which includes defending corporate and public entity clients. Based on his ability to secure favorable outcomes at every stage of litigation, both in the trial court and at the appellate levels, Ryan is a sought-after defense counsel for clients involved in these types of disputes. In addition to his work in the courtroom, Ryan regularly counsels clients on risk avoidance and warranty compliance issues.

In the area of environmental law, Ryan is part of a team defending claims and challenges involving the newly emerging contaminant PFAS, including day to day management and oversight of local counsel throughout the country.

In his complex commercial practice, Ryan has successfully handled a wide variety of disputes, including on behalf of commercial developers, appraisal providers and investment funds.

The New Jersey Defense Association elected Ryan to serve on the 2018–2020 Rules term for the Model Civil Jury Charge Committee, a standing committee of the New Jersey Supreme Court which prepares and updates model civil jury charges to be useful to trial judges and litigants to instruct juries. Ryan has served as a New Jersey Defense Association (NJDA) Board Member since 2015. He is currently serving as the

organization's President for the 2021–2022 term is the Chair of the Public Relations/Social Media committee and Co-Vice Chair of the NJDA Appellate Division Committee.

Committed to public service and a leader in the community, Ryan is involved in complex guardianship and estate matters in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Probate Part, as a court-appointed attorney representing the interests of allegedly incapacitated persons. He additionally represents individuals seeking citizenship in the United States from KIND (Kids in Need of Defense) and abused women in domestic violence and family matters seeking protection from Partners for Women and Justice. Ryan's extensive *pro bono* work has been nationally recognized by KIND twice – Ryan was named *pro bono* attorney of the month in 2017, and he was presented with the 2018 *pro bono* award.

Outside the office, Ryan serves as a Board member of the Franklin Lakes School District Board of Education. He is also a Board member of CASA for Children of Essex County, which promotes the welfare of children who have been removed from their homes because of abuse, neglect or abandonment by providing a safety net of support, advocacy, and mentorship by training and supervising volunteers to advocate on their behalf in court.

Representative Matters

Real estate management and holding companies—NJ Supreme Court win

Secured a victory at the NJ Supreme Court for real estate management and holding companies in their defense against a putative class action lawsuit asserting claims under the NJ Consumer Fraud Act. The NJ Supreme Court reversed the decisions of the Appellate Division and trial court, and agreed with our position that class action waivers may be enforced even when they are not contained in arbitration provisions.

Genie Industries—Product liability litigation

Represented Genie Industries in a product liability suit in the District of New Jersey in which the plaintiff asserted claims of design defect and failure to warn. After granting a *Daubert* motion to exclude expert testimony as unreliable and inadmissible, the Court also granted a motion for summary judgment, ruling that the plaintiffs had failed to provide evidence to support their claims.

Construction equipment manufacturer—Summary judgment granted in New Jersey federal products liability action

Successfully defended a global manufacturer of lifting and material processing in federal court action brought by plaintiff seeking damages for serious injuries arising out of workplace accident. Filed winning *Daubert* motion to exclude plaintiff's expert before securing summary judgment of action.

New Jersey Appellate Division and Supreme Court—Amicus curiae

Counsel for amicus curiae, New Jersey Defense Association, in an appeal relating to a residential homeowner's duty to maintain sidewalks abutting their property. *Decter v. Hejib*, Docket No. A-3073-16T3, Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division (2018).

Valuation and advisory services firm—Financing and appraisal dispute

Counsel for a valuation and advisory services firm in litigation related to the failed financing and residential development of a subdivision project on a golf course in Stone Harbor, New Jersey.

Residential homebuilder—Defense against personal injury claims

Regularly represents a residential homebuilder in lawsuits related to bodily injuries allegedly suffered at residential developments and construction sites.

Lighting products manufacturer—Defense against wrongful death claims

Co-counsel in the defense of the North American arm of a multinational lighting products manufacturer against a plaintiff's claims that her son's death by overdose was the result of a narcotic's addiction he had developed as a result of being electrocuted while attempting to change a light bulb that was manufactured by our client in a warehouse. Obtained dismissal of plaintiff's survivorship claims with prejudice in New Jersey state court, as they had been filed two years after the statute of limitations had expired.

Children's school furniture manufacturer—Defense against product liability claims

Counsel for a children's school furniture manufacturer in litigation involving an alleged injury caused by a school lunch table. After securing an order granting summary judgment on grounds that the expert's opinion should be excluded due to inadmissible "net opinions" regarding the alleged defect, we amicably resolved all claims.

Motorcycle equipment manufacturer—Defense against product liability claims

Counsel for a foreign motorcycle equipment manufacturer in litigation involving personal injuries as a result of a motorcycle accident in Birmingham, Alabama. Filed winning motion to dismiss in New Jersey federal court on jurisdictional grounds resulting in the case being transferred to Michigan where we obtained a resolution.

Crane control system supplier—Defense against personal injury claim

Counsel for a crane component supplier in suit brought by plaintiff who claimed he suffered serious injuries when he grabbed a high-voltage power cable with his bare hands. Amicably resolved this matter on the eve of closing arguments during three-week trial.

Construction equipment supplier—Defense against wrongful death action

Counsel for an international supplier of construction equipment in a case brought in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Union County, by a decedent's estate and his spouse and children, who claimed that he died when he fell off a vibratory compactor that was defectively designed and should have contained additional safety measures (i.e., a seatbelt interlock) to prevent his death.

Roofing product manufacturer—Construction defect matter

Obtained summary judgment for a national manufacturer of roofing products dismissing a product liability/construction defect case involving plaintiffs' claims that the roofing materials used on a multimillion-dollar home in Kinnelon, NJ were defective and caused significant water damage and mold to the home, in addition to a myriad of other construction defect claims against other defendants. After dismissing several claims at the pleading stage, the court disposed of the remainder of claims via successful motion for summary judgment, which was upheld on appeal, and we defeated a petition for verification to the NJ Supreme Court.

Life settlement investment firm—Breach of contract and fraud claims

Represented a German life settlement investment firm as plaintiff asserting fraud, negligent misrepresentation, breach of contract claims, and other causes of action against defendants who induced client into purchasing a multimillion dollar life insurance policy based upon false and misleading representations.

Manufacturers—Asbestos litigation

Represents clients in litigation involving exposure to asbestos from commercial and industrial products, including cosmetic talc and telecommunications equipment.

Elevator manufacturer—Defense against product liability and personal injury claims

Regularly represents an elevator and escalator manufacturer in lawsuits related to bodily injuries allegedly suffered.

Education

Rutgers Law School, JD, *cum laude*, 2011

Women's Rights Law Reporter, Information Technology Editor, 2010–2011

Jessup International Moot Court Competition, Regional Quarterfinalist, 2010

Pennsylvania State University, BS, with honors and distinction, 2008

Bar Admissions

New Jersey

New York

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey

U.S. District Court, Eastern and Southern Districts of New York

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan

U.S. District Court, District of Vermont

U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit

Memberships and Certifications

American Bar Association

Association of Defense Trial Attorneys

Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey

Defense Research Institute

International Association of Defense Counsel

Model Civil Jury Charge Committee

New Jersey Defense Association

Chairperson of the Board, 2022–2023

President, 2021–2022

President-Elect, 2020–2021

Secretary/Treasurer, 2019–2020

Board Member, 2015–2019

Chair, Public Relations

Co-Vice Chair, Appellate Practice Committee

New Jersey State Bar Association

New York State Bar Association

Trial Attorneys of New Jersey

Judicial Clerkships

Judicial Law Clerk

The Hon. Bryan D. Garruto, The Hon. Richard S. Rebeck, Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Middlesex County, 2011–2012

Recognitions*

New Jersey Rising Star, *Super Lawyers*, 2016–2025

New Leader of the Bar, *New Jersey Law Journal*, 2024

Pro Bono Award, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), 2018

Young Lawyer of the Year, New Jersey Defense Association, 2015

* No aspect of this or any advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey. For ranking methodologies, please see [here](#).

Articles

Are Relevant Social Media Posts Discoverable?, *New Jersey Defense Magazine*, 1.27.2022

Using Video Surveillance of Plaintiff's: Pitfalls and Practice Points, *New Jersey Defense Magazine*, 12.6.2016

Speaking Engagements

Chevron Deference: The Path Forward, International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), 4.10.2025

TikTok to ChatGPT – It's Time to Discuss Ethical Considerations for Social Media Use, McCarter & English CLE Symposium, 11.30.2023

Competence, Confidentiality, and Ethical Concerns Related to Technology and Class Actions, McCarter & English CLE Program, 12.3.2019

What Should I Include in the Appendix? Substantive Tips and Procedural Rules to Help You Create an Effective Record on Appeal, *New Jersey Defense Association*, 12.9.2016

Ethical Considerations: Using Social Media to Win Your Case and Pick Your Jury, *New Jersey Defense Association's 50th Annual Convention*, 5.25.2016

Ethical Considerations: Using Social Media for Advertising, *New Jersey Defense Association's 49th Annual Convention*, 5.27.2015

Webinars

Enforceability of Class Action Waivers Contained in Contracts (with or without arbitration clauses), ACCNJ, 10.3.2022

Effective Discovery and Admissibility Strategies for Social Media and Mobile Electronic Device Information, *New Jersey State Bar Association*, 11.22.2021

Access to Justice: Ten Tips & Resources to Assist Immigration Attorneys, *American Bar Association*, 9.15.2020

Quoted

Attorneys Take the Field to Support Greater Newark Fresh Air Fund, NJ.com, 8.7.2023

Auto Insurance Companies Brace for Avalanche of Lawsuits after New Legislation, New Jersey Law Journal, 1.26.2022