



## Joseph Laird

Partner

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Joseph Laird is a trial lawyer who focuses his practice on the defense of personal injury and property damage claims. Joe has extensive experience in state and federal courts, and has successfully tried cases to verdict throughout New York State. He also has prepared briefs and argued appeals before the various Appellate Divisions.

As administrator for the national casualty program of a leading global specialty provider of property and casualty insurance and reinsurance, Joe provides comprehensive program management services, backed by a dedicated practice area within the firm. His services include evaluation, investigation and litigation of claims; opinions on coverage and risk-transfer opportunities; management of budget and litigation expenses; and reserve recommendations. Joe's accomplished negotiating skills provide leverage and enhance cost-effective resolution of claims.

Joe also represents at trial individuals, corporations and self-insured entities in automobile liability, premises liability, general negligence and product liability cases, as well as clients charged with violations of New York State Labor Law. He has developed particular experience handling claims involving the hospitality and real estate industry and construction sites, and he regularly defends contractors, engineers, design professionals and developers in construction defect litigation involving significant property damage claims.

Based on insights gained in defending numerous liability and negligence claims, Joe is able to quickly identify potential issues in a particular matter and provide the client with a good sense of where the case is headed. Whether the client's interests are best served by early case resolution or trial, Joe is equipped to handle all aspects of litigation from inception through resolution.

Prior to entering law school, Joe worked in the New York Capitol as a legislative aide to a

### Services

- Complex Tort & General Casualty
- Insurance & Reinsurance Defense
- Product Liability, Prevention & Government Compliance
- Professional Liability & Services
- Transportation
- Construction

state senator from New York City.

### **Education**

- St. John's University School of Law (J.D., 1996)
- Queens College of the City University of New York (B.A., *cum laude*, 1993)

### **Bar Admissions**

- New York

### **Court Admissions**

- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Western District of New York

### **Professional Affiliations**

- Kings County Democratic Judicial Screening Committee
- New York State Bar Association
- Puerto Rican Bar Association, Board of Directors and Judiciary Committee