



Thomas F. Quinn

Senior Counsel

thomas.quinn@wilsonelser.com

Madison, NJ – 973.735.6036

Tom Quinn's commercial civil litigation practice spans 30 years and focuses on professional liability defense and insurance coverage. He represents lawyers, accountants, insurance brokers and other miscellaneous professionals in malpractice actions, and represents insurance companies in coverage disputes and rendering coverage opinions. He also has a general commercial litigation practice handling ERISA and environmental matters, including class actions. In addition, Tom is well versed in the substance and subtleties of the London insurance market, leveraging the firm's London office to provide ready access to our network of attorneys for London-based insurers.

Tom's trial practice focuses on New Jersey state and federal courts, and he is a New Jersey Certified Civil Trial Attorney. Tom is well known to New Jersey judges and has lectured on both professional liability and insurance coverage issues at their annual Judicial College. He is the immediate past president of the Essex County Bar Association, New Jersey's second-largest bar organization. Tom is credited with more than 15 reported cases, and more than 20 unreported cases, primarily in the coverage and professional malpractice areas, some of which are landmark New Jersey decisions. In addition to litigation, Tom counsels professionals on risk management techniques and represents them before ethics boards.

Whether defending a lawyer or advising an insurer, Tom has the ability to quickly grasp the subject matter of a case and focus precisely on the core issues to formulate a practical strategy for resolving the case. Tom is cognizant that the best outcome of litigation generally is a resolved case, and he has the requisite experience to determine whether case resolution should be accomplished through motion practice, litigation, settlement or trial.

Professional Liability

In the representation of lawyers, Tom has defended both large law firms and solo

Services

- Accountants
- e-Discovery
- Insurance & Reinsurance Coverage
- Lawyers' Liability
- National Trial Team
- Professional Liability & Services
- Toxic Tort
- Contractual/Extra-Contractual Liability Litigation

practitioners in a variety of disputes involving real estate, civil litigation, family law, class actions, corporate issues and bankruptcy matters. He also represents lawyers in ethics proceedings and proposed class action lawsuits. Tom has achieved trial victories in his defense of a lawyer in a real estate/conflict of interest matter, a lawyer in a real estate family dispute, a lawyer who counseled a client on corporate debt issues, and a lawyer who had erroneously failed to advise a client about a filing deadline. He also has defended lawyers in ethics trials before special masters.

In the accountants' liability area, Tom has experience defending malpractice cases involving alleged faulty audits and other attestation work, improper valuations, tax-related errors, and claims of lack of independence. He has counseled accountants on how to respond to third-party and grand jury subpoenas, and has defended and counseled accountants in ethics proceedings.

Tom also has been lead trial attorney representing insurance professionals in cases involving claims ranging from failure to obtain requisite coverage and/or insufficient limits of coverage, to allegations that captive managers failed to develop adequate coverage programs and left their clients financially exposed.

In addition, Tom has represented title agents, appraisers, home inspectors, computer consultants and many other professionals in litigated matters.

Insurance Coverage

Tom is a well-known New Jersey coverage lawyer with extensive experience representing domestic and foreign insurers in coverage disputes involving environmental, product liability, professional liability, advertising injury, commercial general liability (CGL) and first-party property damage claims.

Among his reported cases, Tom was counsel of record on the leading case in New Jersey regarding asbestos insurance coverage and allocation issues, as well as other significant cases on the duty to defend. He also successfully defended at trial an excess insurer in an Agent Orange and environmental coverage case and has been lead counsel to insurers regarding an underlying unfair competition lawsuit and underlying pharmaceutical class action cases. He has represented fidelity insurers in substantial litigation with regulatory authorities. He also has defended class action lawsuits against health insurers on issues related to payment of benefits. He also counsels and represents London-and-Bermuda based Insurers in a variety of matters, including Superstorm Sandy claims.

Tom's insurance coverage experience also encompasses more common coverage issues as well such as automobile coverage, additional insured issues under GL and contractor policies, coverage for employment litigation, and coverage of claims made under professional liability policies. Tom was recently asked by the New Jersey State Bar Association to update the insurance coverage chapter of its Employment Law treatise.

Tom has lectured nationwide on coverage issues and has published on the subject. He is the past chair of the Insurance Coverage Committee of the Essex County Bar Association.

Education

- Seton Hall University School of Law (J.D., *cum laude*, 1981)
 - Seton Hall Law Review
- Georgetown University (B.A., 1978)

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of the United States
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey

Professional Affiliations

- American Bar Foundation, Fellow
- Litigation Counsel of America, Fellow
- American Bar Association: Tort and Insurance Practice Section; Litigation Section
- New Jersey Bar Association: Insurance Coverage Committee; Environmental Law Committee
- Essex County Bar Association: President (2013-2014); past chair, Insurance Coverage Committee
- Trial Lawyers Association of New Jersey
- Professional Liability Underwriting Society (PLUS)
- Council of Litigation Management (CLM)

Awards & Honors

- Selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2024-2026
- Selected for inclusion in The Legal 500 United States in Insurance: Advice to Insurers Tier 3, 2024-2025
- Ranked in the Chambers USA Guide: 2020–2025, New Jersey – Insurance; 2009–2017, Insurance – Litigation
- Selected for inclusion in New Jersey *Super Lawyers*®, 2024
- Selected for inclusion in The Legal 500 - Insurance Tier 4, 2023
- 2018 Lawyer of the Year, Insurance Law, *The Best Lawyers in America*®
- Selected as one of *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the Insurance Law area (2006–2021), Legal Malpractice 2016–2021, Commercial Litigation, 2022–2023
- AV® Preeminent™ Rated by Martindale Hubbell
- Selected for inclusion in New Jersey *Super Lawyers*, 2005–2023 (top 100 in N.J. 2010–

2012)

- Best Lawyers – Insurance Law, Attorney of the Year, Newark, 2012