

Maine

Maine continues to focus on local-level litigation, with hub cities including Portland, Bangor and Augusta. Civil litigation, malpractice and personal injury remain strong practice areas for the state.

Highly recommended firms

Berman & Simmons continues to receive praise as one of the best plaintiff's firms in the state. Practice areas include accident, medical malpractice, product liability, negligence and complex commercial litigation. One recent case includes obtaining a jury verdict of \$7,960,605 for a client in regard to medical care, lost earnings and loss of employment against the Central Maine Medical Center. The case involved the "mismanagement of the last two hours of the mother's labor." Another recent case involves an uninsured motorist involving soft-tissue spinal injuries against North East Insurance. The firm prides itself for holding "many of the largest personal injury verdicts ever obtained in Maine Courts," and is confident when trial is the only option in recovering the "maximum compensation for any harm caused."

William Robitzek represents clients in matters involving personal injuries, class action, medical malpractice and professional malpractice litigation. He practices throughout the state of Maine and recently represented Maine Eye Care Associates in a case involving "fraudulent misrepresentation and unjust enrichment." **Steven Silin** focuses his litigation practice on personal injury, medical malpractice and products liability. Recent case involvement comes from a matter involving organ donations to a company for research. **Julian Sweet** focuses on personal injury, medical malpractice and professional malpractice. His recent case involvement includes a \$7.9 million win for his client, the second largest win for a medical malpractice case in the state. **James O'Connell III** predominantly handles cases involving accidents, professional malpractice, business torts and faulty products.

Bernstein Shur has offices in Portland and Augusta, with more than 90 lawyers. The firm also has an office in New Hampshire. Maine lawyers represent cases for both plaintiffs and defendants for matters throughout the US. Practice areas for the firm include antitrust, construction, energy, health care, intellectual property, media and white-collar defense. The environmental, product

liability and toxic tort litigation practices continue to provide growth areas for the firm, with "extensive experience" in asbestos-related issues.

Peter Rubin, president of the firm, focuses his time on product liability, business, malpractice and personal injury litigation. One case involves his representation of a plaintiff in an automobile accident. His client won nearly \$3 million from the jury verdict. He works extensively with asbestos cases and is often recognized by peers as a top commercial trial attorney. **Jeffrey Thaler** has an environmental and energy emphasis, and often handles cases in commercial, medical disputes, insurance coverage, personal injury or toxic tort matters. He has experience handling issues relating to renewable energy like wind and hydro power. **Lori Dwyer** focuses her time on labor and employment litigation issues. In addition to her litigation work, she takes an active role in the pro bono matters that include representing victims of domestic violence.

The large New England firm **Pierce Atwood** continues to expand its national and global presence in the legal landscape. Offices in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, the District of Columbia and Sweden join the already existing offices around Maine. Leading practice areas for litigation include commercial, environmental, employment and tax. The firm takes top priority in knowing the business of the client inside and out so as to best facilitate the needs of each individual case. The firm continues to expand its reach with the addition of a chief operating officer, Maggie Callicrate, from a global consulting firm. One recent case involves the control of lead pigment used in paint in Rhode Island. **Pierce Atwood** successfully handled the appeal on behalf of Millennium Holdings.

David Barry's practice puts emphasis on business litigation, white-collar criminal defense and government investigations, and is often recognized for his work in those fields. **Peter Culley** has significant trial experience in civil and white-collar criminal litigation. He is often recognized by peers in commercial, mass tort, environmental and product liability litigation. Representative clients

Local litigation firms

Highly recommended

Berman & Simmons

Bernstein Shur

Harvey & Frank

Pierce Atwood

Preti Flaherty Beliveau & Pachios

Recommended

Norman Hanson & DeTroy

Verrill & Dana

Eaton Peabody

Rudman & Winchell

Petrucci Martin & Haddow

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- Berman & Simmons



Local litigation stars

David Barry
Pierce Atwood

Peter Culley
Pierce Atwood

Peter DeTroy
Norman Hanson & DeTroy

Robert Frank
Harvey & Frank

James Goggin
Verrill & Dana

Gregory Hansel
Preti Flaherty Beliveau & Pachios

Charles Harvey
Harvey & Frank

William Kayatta
Pierce Atwood

James Kilbreth
Verrill & Dana

David King
Rudman & Winchell

Bernard Kubetz
Eaton Peabody

John McCarthy
Rudman & Winchell

Robert Newton
Preti Flaherty Beliveau & Pachios

Gerald Petrucelli
Petrucelli Martin & Haddow

Jonathan Piper
Preti Flaherty Beliveau & Pachios

William Robitzek
Berman & Simmons

Peter Rubin
Bernstein Shur

Steven Silin
Berman & Simmons

Julian Sweet
Berman & Simmons

Jeffrey Thaler
Bernstein Shur

Jeffrey White
Pierce Atwood

include Great Northern Paper and Gorham Savings Bank. **Jeffrey White** often practices within areas of antitrust, contract, commercial, tort, intellectual property, trade secret and computer technology matters. Clients include BroadcastAmerica.com, in a case regarding the defense of “trade name infringement.” Clients and peers often recognize **William Kayatta** as an attorney to turn to in matters of “bet the company” litigation. Practice areas for his work include antitrust, class action, employment, energy and Employment Retirement Income Security Act. Associate **Sean Sweeney** focuses his litigation experience on matters of intellectual property. Case involvement includes everything from drug screening techniques to golf swing analysis systems.

Preti Flaherty Beliveau & Pachios has significant practices within areas of class action, toxic tort, securities, antitrust and professional liability litigation. The firm has more than 30 litigators ready to handle a variety of cases in state and federal courts. Kingspan Group, Aetna, Bath Iron Works and Visa are all past clients. The firm provides significant media law authority with clients like the Maine Press Association, Forbes, Portland Press Herald and WGBH Educational Foundation.

state as one of the top regional litigation firms. The intellectual property practice continues to grow with the addition of a new attorney, Mark Beaumont, as do the corporate and business planning groups. The litigation group has extensive trial experience and often handles cases involving antitrust, bankruptcy, contract, lender liability, personal injury, railroad, real estate and white-collar crime. While the firm regularly represents cases in the state of Maine, they are often called to represent matters in Canada.

Chair of the litigation department, **Bernard Kubetz** specializes in cases involving personal injury, product liability and malpractice. Clients, including the Bangor Daily News, often turn to him for First Amendment matters. Kubetz recently represented a school superintendent in a case involving libel and slander. Peers often mention **David Austin** who practices in the areas of business and securities law.

Harvey & Frank are a powerful team in Maine litigation. Clients often call upon the duo of **Robert Frank** and **Charles Harvey** to provide their top-level service in all matters of litigation. Other firms are occasionally hired when necessary, but these two often do the work themselves. Frank emphasizes areas

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- Eaton Peabody

Gregory Hansel is chair of the litigation group at Preti Flaherty Beliveau & Pachios. Business law matters such as class actions, securities, mass torts, fraud, Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, professional malpractice and white-collar criminal law are major practice areas. Recent case work includes a lawsuit for the families of US missionaries against Chiquita Brands International alleging financing of a leftist rebel group in Columbia, South America. **Robert Newton** often handles physician, hospital malpractice and product liability cases. Significant case work includes a successful plaintiff’s product liability case of a “child who inadvertently started [a] vehicle in motion” against DaimlerCrysler. Managing Partner **Jonathan Piper** has significant trial experience in media law matters and clients often turn to him for First Amendment issues. As a member of the litigation group, associate **Joshua Carver** focuses his time on antitrust, complex commercial and products liability litigation.

Recommended firms

As one of Maine’s oldest firms, Eaton Peabody is well established throughout the

of antitrust, insurance and intellectual property law. Harvey recently successfully represented the Maine Community College System and the York County Community College in a personal injury lawsuit brought by a student who tripped over computer cables. His representation allowed the clients to win a summary judgment that held they were immune from such suits.

The law firm **Norman Hanson & DeTroy** recently announced their official merger with the small firm of Bonneau & Geismar. John Bonneau was recently quoted as saying, “It was a natural fit” for the firms. “They wanted what we had and did, and vice versa.” The firm name remains Norman Hanson & DeTroy, and continues to provide clients with excellent trial services. The move now allows the firm to expand its presence in the Maine litigation market as well. While client services in litigation areas of health care, product liability, environmental, insurance, property and civil rights are all important to the firm, they also strive to maintain low costs by keeping their “expenses in line.”

Peter DeTroy focuses his trial experience on matters of civil, business, criminal defense

Future stars

Kenneth Albert
Norman Hanson & DeTroy

David Austin
Eaton Peabody

Charles Budd Jr
Rudman & Winchell

Joshua Carver
Preti Flaherty Beliveau & Pachios

Lori Dwyer
Bernstein Shur

Brian Libby
Verrill & Dana

James O'Connell III
Berman & Simmons

Bradford Pattershall
Petrucci Martin & Haddow

Sean Sweeney
Pierce Atwood

Laura White
Petrucci Martin & Haddow

and professional liability litigation. Clients turn to him often to defend insurance matters. Associate **Kenneth Albert III** joined the firm after the merger with Bonneau & Geismar. He focuses his work on health care and employment law.

Petrucci Martin & Haddow is located in Bangor and has handled cases in the state for the past 25 years. The firm excels in business litigation as well as intellectual property, product liability and personal injury law. Peers often call on the firm to collaborate in matters involving cases in the state. Past clients of the firm include the Maine College of Art, Philadelphia Insurance and Cumberland Farms. The firm recently handled a case for Vessel Services who were suing an employee for embezzling nearly \$400,000 over the past four years. The suit filed sought compensation and punitive damages.

Handling the case was name partner **Gerald Petrucci**. He specializes in professional liability, business, product liability, insurance litigation and appeals, and is often noted as one of Maine's best trial lawyers. Maine native **Bradford Pattershall** focuses his time on personal injury, insurance and business litigation. Recent addition **Laura White's** litigation practice emphasizes personal injury, products liability and business matters.

Full-service Maine law firm **Rudman & Winchell** built its reputation on "cost-effective, personalized service supplying creative and pragmatic solutions to complex problems." The firm continues to receive praise for a litigation group that handles class action, discrimination, criminal, personal injury, professional malpractice and real estate matters. The firm has close to 20 lawyers dedicated to the practice and clients ranging from the Maine Liquor Commission and Lane Construction to non-profit groups. One recent client includes BookLocker.com in a lawsuit filed against Amazon.com over an antitrust disagreement. The firm also represented a client recently in a property litigation suit.

John McCarthy focuses his time on personal injury, product liability and employment litigation. Case representation includes a client who filed a lawsuit for payment of construction services rendered. **David King** focuses his litigation work on employment, insurance, personal injury and banking law. **Charles Budd Jr's** litigation work emphasizes criminal, civil and employment matters. Recent representation includes client Irving Equipment in a case involving construction litigation.

Verrill & Dana serves the New England areas of law including litigation, real estate law, estate planning and employment matters. Offices have branched out to Boston, Hartford and the District of Columbia. They boast a business model that "emphasizes ready access to experienced attorneys and leading edge technology to meet the needs and demands of our clients." Unfortunately, the firm recently made headlines for a former lawyer, now disbarred for life, who stole a significant amount of money from the firm and its clients over the course of several years. Rising up, however, the firm recently received the Pro Bono Publico award for their commitments to the Volunteer Lawyers Project. Past clients of the firm include Diversified Business Communications, Vortechincs and Gulf of Maine Research Institute.

James Goggin has significant trial experience in the firm's continuously growing intellectual property practice. Notable clients include Hinckley Yacht Company, Ralph Lauren's Polo division, Morgan Stanley and Sabre Yacht Corporation in trademark disputes. **James Kilbreth** focuses his work on the trial practice within environmental law. He has extensive experience handling complex commercial and regulatory litigation, and counts Bowdoin College as a former client. **Brian Libby** is an associate who focuses his litigation work on intellectual property matters. His law practice is bolstered by his PhD in biomedical sciences.



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Now the managing partner in this New England based firm, and former chair of its large litigation practice group, Jon Piper has tried cases throughout the country. He has applied his advocacy skills to matters as diverse as securities litigation, large commercial disputes, large construction claims, environmental litigation, libel defense of the media and international arbitration proceedings. In addition to nationally domiciled businesses, Mr Piper also serves as primary litigation counsel for a number of internationally based companies doing business in the United States. A representative summary of case matters handled for his clients can be found at www.preti.com. Mr Piper has received special note in *Chambers USA*, *America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, and is recognized by *Super Lawyers* in the field of business litigation. He is also listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*. Mr Piper is a magna cum laude graduate of Bowdoin College and holds a JD from the University of Maine School of Law, where he was editor of the *Maine Law Review*. He is a fellow of the Maine Bar Foundation and has served on the boards of many civic and charitable organizations.