

PENNSYLVANIA

Local litigation firms

Highly recommended

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll

Dechert

Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin

Morgan Lewis & Bockius

Pepper Hamilton

Recommended

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld

Blank Rome

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney

Conrad O'Brien Gellman & Rohn

Cozen O'Connor

Drinker Biddle & Reath

Duane Morris

Fox Rothschild

Harkins Cunningham

K&L Gates

Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads

Reed Smith

Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis

Thorp Reed & Armstrong

Local litigation stars

Kevin Abbott

Reed Smith
Commercial Litigation

Mark Aronchick

Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin
Antitrust, Employment Litigation, General
Commercial Litigation, Securities, White Collar
Crime

Martin Black

Dechert
Intellectual Property

Samuel Braver

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney
Appellate, Complex Commercial Litigation, Products
Liability

Wilson Brown

Drinker Biddle & Reath
Antitrust, Appellate, General Commercial Litigation,
Insurance, Intellectual Property

Douglas Cameron

Reed Smith
Insurance

David Comerford

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Securities

Gordon Cooney

Morgan Lewis & Bockius
Commercial Litigation, Products Liability

Francis Devine

Pepper Hamilton
Commercial Litigation, Insurance, Intellectual
Property, Securities

John Dodds

Morgan Lewis & Bockius
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, White Collar Crime

Michael Doluisio

Dechert
Securities

Michael Donovan

Donovan Searles
Securities

John Elliott

Elliott Greenleaf
Complex Commercial Litigation

Carolyn Feeney

Dechert
Antitrust

Hope Freiwalder

Dechert
Products Liability

Nancy Gellman

Conrad O'Brien Gellman & Rohn
Complex Commercial Litigation, Employment Law,
Professional Liability

Amy Gimensky

Pepper Hamilton
Commercial Litigation

Eugene Giotto

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney
Complex Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury,
Products Liability

Donald Goldberg

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll
White Collar Crime

Duncan Grant

Pepper Hamilton
Antitrust, Appellate, Commercial Litigation,
Intellectual Property, Securities, White Collar Crime

Norman Greenspan

Blank Rome
Antitrust, Complex Commercial Litigation,
Intellectual Property, Products Liability, Securities,
White Collar Crime

Nina Gussack

Pepper Hamilton
Appellate, Products Liability, White Collar Crime

William Hangley

Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Securities

John Harkins

Harkins Cunningham
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Intellectual
Property

Robert Heim

Dechert
Antitrust, Appellate, Commercial Litigation, Products
Liability

Robert Hickok

Pepper Hamilton
Antitrust, Appellate, Commercial Litigation,
Securities, White Collar Crime

David Howard

Dechert
Securities, White Collar Crime

Stephen Kastenber

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll
Commercial Litigation, White Collar Crime

Mary Kohart

Drinker Biddle & Reath
Commercial Litigation, Products Liability

Ann Laupheimer

Blank Rome
Bankruptcy, Commercial Litigation, Insurance,
Securities

Thomas Lee

Dechert
Securities

Christine Levin

Dechert
Antitrust

Wayne Mack

Duane Morris
Antitrust, Complex Commercial Litigation, Securities

Arthur Makadon

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll
Complex Commercial Litigation, White Collar Crime

David Marion

Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads
Antitrust, Appellate, Commercial Litigation

Barbara Mather

Pepper Hamilton
Antitrust, Appellate, Commercial Litigation,
Securities, White Collar Crime

Michael Miller

Drinker Biddle & Reath
Insurance, Intellectual Property

David Pittinsky

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll
Appellate, Commercial Litigation

A. Michael Pratt

Pepper Hamilton
Commercial Litigation

Abraham Reich

Fox Rothschild
Antitrust, Insurance, Intellectual Property,
Professional Liability

Robert Ridge

Thorp Reed & Armstrong
Commercial Litigation, White Collar Crime

James Rohn

Conrad O'Brien Gellman & Rohn
Complex Commercial Litigation, White Collar Crime

Paul Rosen

Spector Gadon & Rosen
Antitrust, Bankruptcy, Commercial Litigation,
Securities

Burt Rublin

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll
Antitrust, Appellate, Complex Commercial Litigation

Patricia Santelle

White & Williams
Insurance

Richard Scheff

Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Securities

Howard Scher

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney
Antitrust, Appellate, Securities

Ronald Schiller

Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin
Insurance

Michael Scott

Reed Smith
Commercial Litigation, Products Liability, White
Collar Crime

Daniel Segal

Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin
Commercial Litigation, Education Law

Eric Sitarchuk

Morgan Lewis
White Collar Crime

David Smith

Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis
Antitrust, Appellate, Bankruptcy, Commercial
Litigation, Insurance, Intellectual Property, Securities

Marc Sonnenfeld

Morgan Lewis & Bockius
Commercial Litigation, Securities

John Summers

Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin
White Collar Crime

Dennis Suplee

Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis
Antitrust, Insurance

Robin Switzenbaum

Berger & Montague
Complex Civil Litigation, Securities

Joseph Tate

Dechert
Antitrust, White Collar Crime

Ralph Wellington

Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis
Antitrust, Appellate, Products Liability

Douglas Widin

Reed Smith
Insurance

William Winning

Cozen O'Connor
Complex Criminal Litigation, White Collar Crime

William Wycoff

Thorp Reed & Armstrong
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Insurance

Michael Zanic

K&L Gates
Insurance, Products Liability

Future stars

Wendy Beetlestone
Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin

Nicholas Centrella
Conrad O'Brien Gellman & Rohn

Lisa Dykstra
Morgan Lewis & Bockius

John Grugan
Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll

Michele Hangley
Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin

Grant Palmer
Blank Rome

Raymond Quaglia
Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll

Nicole Rosenblum
Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin

Sozi Tulante
Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania has a long history of litigation and exceptional litigators. Indeed, the term “Philadelphia lawyer,” a reference to a legal professional familiar with the most detailed and minute points of law, was coined as a tribute to the skills of attorneys practicing in the Keystone State’s largest city as early as the 1780’s. Today, Pennsylvania hosts a rich mix of firms ranging from large national conglomerates to niche boutiques, with most of these firms being concentrated in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Highly recommended firms

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll

Formed in 1885, Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll has blossomed to include 500 attorneys in twelve offices across eleven states. Over 250 of these practice in the firm’s flagship office in Philadelphia, and Ballard Spahr remains a respected member of the Pennsylvania legal community. Peers and clients concur on the firm’s credentials, with a client calling the firm’s attorneys “particularly savvy,” and peers revering the firm as “some of the finest litigators.” This reputation is reinforced by the fact that in January 2009, Ballard Spahr lured three litigators away from a rival firm to join its ranks.

David Pittinsky has extensive experience in defending and prosecuting complex commercial, antitrust, federal securities, RICO, ERISA, *qui tam*, trade secret, and contract claims commenced in federal court. Peers call him “a real trial lawyer” and clients claim that “he’s excellent, with great instincts.” In 2008, Pittinsky represented Penn Square Partners in connection with their efforts to build a convention center in Lancaster, despite opposition from county commissioners. Pittinsky obtained a preliminary and permanent injunction enjoining the county commissioners from rescinding a guarantee of a \$63 million bond issue for the construction of the convention center. Peers also mention Arthur Makadon, who maintains an active litigation practice focusing on white-collar criminal matters and complex commercial matters.

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney

Founded in Pittsburgh in 1850 and still headquartered there, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney has more than 450 attorneys and government relations professionals. The firm makes its debut as a highly recommended firm this year. One peer states “the Pittsburgh market is often overlooked in favor of Philadelphia, but it would be a mistake to overlook Buchanan.” The firm provides comprehensive coverage of key markets within the Keystone State, with two offices in Harrisburg and one Philadelphia along with the Pittsburgh office representing the western, central and eastern regions of

the state. In July 2009, the firm obtained a victory for client Cook Composites and Polymers in a five-week federal jury trial stemming from a \$405 million lawsuit filed by Viking Yacht Company and Post Marine Company in 2004 alleging a breach of warranty concerning a gel coat the defendant applied to yachts manufactured by Viking and Post. The court dismissed the case.

Eugene Giotto is a widely recommended trial attorney who litigates complex commercial and multimillion-dollar personal injury cases. His litigation and trial experience extends across multiple jurisdictions and covers health care law, medical and nursing home malpractice, industrial explosions and catastrophic injury, toxic tort, premises liability, employer liability and insurance coverage.

Dechert

Headquartered in Philadelphia, Dechert currently has over 1,000 lawyers in 19 offices spanning three continents, establishing the firm as a substantial presence in the national and international litigation markets. The firm is highly regarded for its antitrust, products liability, securities, and white-collar crime practices. The firm has gained nationwide exposure for its products liability practice, which is the largest in Pennsylvania. Clients praise Dechert for its partners’ “strong writing and legal strategy skills.” Peers weigh in by calling the firm’s services “uniformly first-rate” and “head and shoulders above the rest” for products liability.

In the Philadelphia office, peers point to Robert Heim as being one of the state’s top litigation forces for his complex commercial, antitrust, white-collar, intellectual property and securities practices. Also earning accolades is David Howard. Howard is defending Select Medical and several individuals in a putative class action alleging claims arising out of a proposed change in Medicare regulations. Howard obtained early dismissal of claims relating to alleged misrepresentation of the company’s internal controls and accounting.

Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin

Philadelphia boutique Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin is highly regarded by local

peers as a small firm that “could give the bigger ones a run for their money.” Clients claim that “they are very responsive and very cost-effective, and very able to be aware of and zone in on localized issues.”

John Summers is recommended by peers as a “smart lawyer” and by clients as a “strategic thinker, with the ability to articulate strengths and weaknesses of a case.” Summers represented Fiduciary Counselors Inc., in its capacity as independent fiduciary of the Company Security Fund portion of the Agway, Inc. Employees’ 401(k) Thrift Investment Plan. Plaintiffs alleged that the defendants breached their fiduciary duties by using Plan assets to purchase and hold illiquid, non-publicly traded debt instruments issued by Agway at prices far exceeding the instruments’ fair market values, resulting in nearly \$50 million in losses. In late fall 2008, the matter settled. William Hangley is hailed for his expertise in antitrust, intellectual property, environmental, construction, employment, securities, attorney malpractice and general business cases. Peers note Daniel Segal for his “tenacity and skill” in civil and criminal matters. Wendy Beetlestone, Sozi Tulante, and Michele Hangley are all tipped as future stars by different competitors.

Morgan Lewis & Bockius

Morgan Lewis & Bockius has more than 1,400 lawyers in 22 offices worldwide and has one of the highest concentrations of East Coast lawyers of any one firm, including more than 800 lawyers combined in New York, Washington, D.C., and its home base of Philadelphia. In July 2009 the firm successfully defended Computer Sciences Corporation in an ERISA suit alleging that the company and its retirement plan committee had breached their fiduciary duties to participants of its 401(k) plan by continuing to invest retirement plan assets in the company’s stock, in the face of stock option backdating allegations. The court found that the plaintiffs had presented no evidence that the defendants had violated their fiduciary duties and dismissed the case.

J. Gordon Cooney practices commercial and civil litigation, with emphasis on class actions in state and federal courts, including consumer, products liability, deceptive trade practice, toxic tort, RICO, antitrust, and securities class actions. Marc Sonnenfeld defends securities and shareholder litigation and related regulatory and enforcement proceedings, and one peer states “in a big class action, I want him next to me.”

Pepper Hamilton

Formed in 1890 in Philadelphia, where it is still headquartered, Pepper Hamilton is a multi-practice law firm with more than 500 lawyers nationally. The firm provides corporate, litigation and regulatory legal services to leading businesses, governmental

entities, nonprofit organizations and individuals throughout the nation and the world.

Several peers mention **Nina Gussack** for her trial practice, which is concentrated in civil litigation with an emphasis in the defense of pharmaceutical and medical device companies regarding marketed products, investigational new drugs, medical devices and over-the-counter drug products. **Francis Devine**, a senior trial lawyer and former chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, focuses his practice on complex business and commercial disputes, products liability, insurance coverage, professional liability and malpractice, directors and officers' liability, and intellectual property disputes. **A. Michael Pratt** receives praise for his practice concentrating on commercial, products liability and mass tort litigation. **Barbara Mather** focuses on professional responsibility and malpractice, securities and corporate governance, antitrust, and other commercial and intellectual property litigation, as well as college and university law.

Recommended firms

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld

Founded in 1945, national firm Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld has more than 800 lawyers in 13 offices around the world, including a fairly recent foray into the Philadelphia market. In August 2009, the firm earned a victory on behalf of client DVD Copy Control Association in a suit against RealNetworks concerning its RealDVD software, which lets consumers copy DVDs onto home computers. The court issued a preliminary injunction against RealNetworks. **David Comerford** is the co-chair of the firm's litigation practice and focuses on complex class actions and other commercial litigation.

Blank Rome

Headquartered in Philadelphia, Blank Rome has grown to include eight stateside offices and one in Hong Kong since the firm began 60 years ago. The firm's litigation practice consists of more than 200 attorneys that handle a wide variety of civil, criminal, and administrative matters in state and federal courts across the country at both the trial and appellate levels. **Ann Laupheimer** concentrates her practice on corporate litigation, including insurance coverage disputes and counseling, insurance insolvency litigation and advice, and general commercial litigation. **Norman Greenspan** provides counsel in general and commercial litigation matters, and in responding to civil, criminal, and administrative government investigations.

Conrad O'Brien Gellman & Rohn

Founded over 25 years ago in Philadelphia, Conrad O'Brien has established itself as one

of the state's top boutique firms. In January 2009, the firm scored a victory on behalf of Progressive Insurance when the Superior Court of Pennsylvania dismissed a class action complaint filed by the plaintiff and other similarly situated massage therapists seeking reimbursement for their performance of therapeutic massage therapy prescribed by medical doctors to treat injuries sustained by an insured in a motor vehicle accident. Peers mention **William O'Brien**, who represents clients in a wide variety of matters, including products liability and mass tort cases, class actions, defamation, employment discrimination,

of Atlantic City Associates, the developer of The Walk in Atlantic City, when a federal jury in New Jersey awarded the client \$7.6 million after it found the architect on the project breached a contract by providing allegedly faulty designs that delayed the project's completion.

Fox Rothschild

Fox Rothschild was founded in Philadelphia in 1907, and today this office continues to be the cornerstone of the firm's strength. With over 100 lawyers, the flagship office has well established practices in labor and employment, litigation, and real estate. The

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personal injury, professional liability, insurance coverage, environmental, antitrust, and commercial litigation.

Cozen O'Connor

Cozen O'Connor was founded in Philadelphia in 1970 and has grown its litigation services substantially over the years. Peers note “the firm is getting bigger, and adding huge numbers of people.” When Delaware firm WolfBlock folded, many of its attorneys subsequently gravitated to Cozen. In April 2009, the firm strengthened its litigation presence further when it added prominent trial attorney **John Moses**, a litigator with nearly 30 years experience in a private practice.

Drinker Biddle & Reath

Philadelphia-based Drinker Biddle & Reath traces its history back to 1849, and today has nearly 700 lawyers in 12 offices. The firm continues to grow steadily, and in February 2009, it fortified its litigation footprint through the hire of environmental litigator **Thomas Starnes** into the fold. Several peers mention **Wilson Brown**, whose practice is concentrated in the areas of commercial litigation, intellectual property and technology litigation, and insurance coverage disputes, where he is recognized as one of the premier trial attorneys in the country. He also manages antitrust and securities matters.

Duane Morris

Duane Morris is a full-service law firm with more than 700 attorneys in 24 offices in the United States and around the world. Global in scope, the firm remains committed to its core practice established out of its Philadelphia headquarters in 1904. In July 2009, the firm achieved a victory on behalf

firm has another office in Pittsburgh, as well as outposts in smaller areas like Warrington, Bucks County and Exton, Chester County. Steadily growing, the firm has added an impressive eight partners over the last year. **Abraham Reich** is mentioned for his antitrust, securities and intellectual properties litigation prowess. Peers call him “an accomplished, knowledgeable, intelligent litigator.”

Harkins Cunningham

Boutique firm Harkins Cunningham operates out of only one office in Philadelphia and another in Washington, D.C. but its presence hasn't gone unnoticed by its larger peers, who view the firm as “a little powerhouse” and “among the very best.” **John Harkins** is engaged in complex litigation involving issues of corporate, securities, contracts, intellectual property and antitrust law, often arguing at the appellate level. Peers marvel at Harkins' prowess, saying “he's been in the game a long time and still has it; he can take on anyone at the big firms.”

K&L Gates

K&L Gates comprises 1,800 lawyers who practice in 33 offices. In Pennsylvania, the firm focuses on the less-crowded Pittsburgh market, where it has operated for 60 years. The Pittsburgh office has more than 125 litigation lawyers active in a wide variety of disciplines. Peers mention the firm's litigation base is “very deep and very broad.” In July 2009 the firm was retained by CBS as counsel in a fraud investigation filed by former CBS news anchor Dan Rather, who alleged that CBS sought to influence a panel that investigated Rather after his controversial “60 Minutes” report on former President George W. Bush's military record.

Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads Founded more than 95 years ago, Montgomery McCracken is a multi-disciplinary law serving the southeastern Pennsylvania market with offices in Philadelphia, Berwyn and West Chester, as well as one in nearby Cherry Hill, New Jersey and one in Delaware. Firm chairman **Richard Scheff** is lauded by the legal community as being “smart, tough and likeable, which is a rare combination.” Scheff’s practice focuses on government investigations, internal corporate investigations, white-collar criminal and fraud matters, and matters specific to institutions of higher learning.

Reed Smith

Pittsburgh-based Reed Smith has been operating from its headquarters since 1877, and today peers consider it “one of the Pittsburgh mega-firms” with a “very strong

litigation presence.” Beyond Pittsburgh, the firm attends to clients in the eastern portion of the state with a Philadelphia office, and it has forged an international footprint with 20 offices around the world. Within the Pittsburgh office, **Kevin Abbott** focuses his work in commercial litigation, energy law, and media law.

Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis

Founded in 1935, Philadelphia-based Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis boasts an impressive reputation among clients and peers, with one peer mentioning “they’ve got some really top-notch lawyers over there,” and one satisfied client remarking that “they did a terrific job, and were very responsive and very cost-effective.” The firm serves the Philadelphia market with a satellite office in nearby Cherry Hill, New Jersey and also attends to clients in western Pennsylvania through a Pittsburgh outpost.

In Philadelphia, **David Smith** receives praise for his deftness in handling large and complex litigations, including representation of plaintiffs and defendants in a broad variety of commercial disputes.

Thorp Reed & Armstrong

Formed in 1895, Thorp Reed & Armstrong has grown to include offices located in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Princeton, New Jersey, and Wheeling, West Virginia. Approximately 125 lawyers support a wide variety of clients’ needs within business law, litigation, labor, and commercial and public finance. In the flagship office in Pittsburgh, peers point to **William Wycoff**, who focuses his practice defense work on corporate, contract, securities and class action litigation. Also in Pittsburgh, **Robert Ridge** represents clients in civil and criminal cases involving allegations of financial fraud and breach of fiduciary duties.

