



Jody C. Benard

Senior Counsel

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Jody C. Benard, Senior Counsel with Hickey Smith, is a seasoned litigator and trial lawyer with a proven record of achieving excellent results in all types of cases. With extensive experience in litigation and trial, Jody has prosecuted and defended significant matters from both sides of the courtroom.

Before joining the Hickey Smith team, Jody was the founding and managing partner of a successful defense litigation firm. During this time, in addition to her handling all aspects of litigation, including trial, Jody directed the business operations of the firm and successfully managed a multitude of matters.

Jody has actively practiced in state and federal courts in both New York and New Jersey. With her diverse background, Jody brings a wide range of expertise to the firm including property damage, labor law, premises liability, personal injury, commercial litigation, products liability and insurance coverage. Additionally, Jody has experience in setting and maintaining policy for No Fault claims and litigation.

Jody also serves as Vice President of the Board of Trustees for the New York School for the Deaf.

EDUCATION

JD, George Washington
University National Law
Center, Washington, DC, 1986
BA, University of Rochester,
Rochester, New York, 1983

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York
New Jersey

COURT ADMISSIONS

New York State Courts
United States District Court for
the Eastern and Southern
District

New Jersey State Courts
United States District Court for
the District of New Jersey

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

As trial counsel for several major insurance companies, as well as many smaller carriers, Ann has represented a wide range of business entities, including commercial property owners, property management groups, general contractors in the construction industry, hospitals, manufacturers, restaurants and bars, and landscaping companies, as well as individual property owners and drivers.

- Represented a general contractor in the construction industry in a multi-million dollar construction injury case.
- Represented a manufacturer of industrial brakes in class-action asbestos litigation.
- Represented an employer in an employee theft case that resulted in the return of more than \$300,000 to the employer. Facilitated the criminal prosecution of the employee.
- Represented a business owner in a dispute over real estate and property management business located on the island of St. Maarten. The case went to trial, resulting in a favorable verdict for client.

PUBLISHED WORKS AND MATTERS

- Philadelphia Bar Institute, Continuing Legal Education Seminar, Speaker, "Arbitration Practice in Philadelphia County."
- Allstate Insurance Company, Continuing Legal Education Seminar, Presenter, "The Art of Cross-Examining the Expert Witness."

ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIP

- Ann is an active member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.