



Andrew J. Connolly

Principal
Chair, Construction Defect/Injury Litigation Practice Group

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Defends clients in claims and litigation involving catastrophic and complex third-party workplace injuries occurring on multi-employer construction sites, allegedly toxic products, premises liability, and general liability.

#### Bio

Andrew J. Connolly is a Principal and Chair of the Firm's Construction Defect/Injury Litigation Group. He is experienced in the handling of catastrophic and complex third party workplace injuries occurring on multi-employer construction sites. His experience includes defending cases involving personal injury or property damage allegedly caused by general contractors, architects, engineers, and property owners. These cases include analyzing and applying OSHA standards to accidents where workers have fallen to their death, been severely burned, electrocuted, or crushed.

Mr. Connolly and his practice group have participated in the investigation and defense of hundreds of claims regarding fenestration and exterior cladding systems, including adhered masonry veneer and traditional 3-coat stucco systems. He has investigated matters involving curtain walls and aluminum composite panels, which have customarily been used on larger commercial buildings and high rise construction. He has utilized trade-specific guidance documents, like those put forth by the Masonry Veneer Manufacturer's Association, the Stucco Manufacturers Association, and the Portland Cement Association, that relate specifically to the manufacture and installation of masonry veneer and stucco, in addition to the North American Fenestration Standard as adopted for windows and doors and published by the Window and Door Manufacturers Association and the American Architectural Manufacturers Association.

Mr. Connolly formed his Worksite Accident Response Group (a/k/a "W.A.R. Group") in 2014 to provide accident day investigation of catastrophic accidents to ensure that critical evidence is secured and key witness statements undertaken subject to attorney privileges

Mr. Connolly has also defended manufacturers of allegedly toxic products such as solvents, asphalt, inks, degreasers, paints, latex gloves, and foams used for breast implants in mass tort, class action, and federal multi-district litigation.

From 2004 - 2009 and 2010 - 2019, Mr. Connolly has been recognized as a

#### **Practices**

- Toxic Tort Liability Litigation
- Products Liability Litigation
- Premises Liability Litigation
- Appellate
- Construction Defect/Injury Litigation
- · Casualty Litigation

#### **Industries**

- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Insurance

#### **Education**

- J.D., Temple University School of Law, 1990
- B.B.A., Temple University, 1984

#### **Bar Memberships**

- Pennsylvania
- Maryland

#### **Court Admissions**

- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit



Pennsylvania Super Lawyer (top 5%) by his peers as published by American Lawyer Media and *Philadelphia Magazine*. In 2012 and 2013 he was also listed in Super Lawyers Business Edition.

In 2013 Mr. Connolly founded the Firm's Worksite Accident Response Group ("WAR") which immediately responds to investigate workplace accidents.

In 2014, Mr. Connolly was named Old Republic Insurance Company's Construction Program Group's East Region Attorney of the Year.

Mr. Connolly has lectured on the subject of challenging questionable expert testimony and has obtained summary judgments or nonsuits after precluding liability experts on several occasions.

Mr. Connolly regularly utilizes alternative dispute resolution methods such as non-binding mediation to resolve complex multi-employer worksite cases.

### **Representative Cases**

Mr. Connolly has obtained summary judgment or defense verdicts at trial in many cases including:

- Defense verdict at trial representing the target architect in a claimed \$25.0
  million business failure arising from the alleged improper design by the
  architect.
- Defense verdict at trial representing the target contractor in a claimed \$5.0 million roof collapse.
- Defense verdict in class action certification trial brought by 600 putative plaintiffs against contractors who allegedly constructed apartment buildings in negligent fashion so as to cause alleged exposure to carbon monoxide.
- Summary judgment as national counsel for the target manufacturer of hydraulic cylinders used in aerial lifts which were collapsing and causing catastrophic injuries to users in multiple states (reported decision).
- Summary judgment for the target manufacturer defendant in a wrongful death case allegedly arising from the work place electrocution of the plaintiff's decedent which was allegedly caused by the equipment (reported decision).

## **Speaking Engagements**

- "Daubert: Issues in Preparing and Presenting Experts/Evidence from a Legal Perspective," AICPA National Conferences on Fraud and Litigation Services, Dallas, TX (September 29-30, 2005)
- "The Dynamics of Jury Deliberations in a Catastrophic Personal Injury Case"
- "Pennsylvania Products Liability and Issues"
- "The Importance of Prompt Accident Investigation"
- "Attacking Expert Testimony"
- "When Disaster Strikes on the Construction Worksite"

# Clerkship



• Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Robert N.C. Nix, Jr.

## **Affiliations**

- Defense Research Institute
- International Risk Management Institute
- Risk and Insurance Management Society
- American Bar Association
- Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (The CLM)

## **Pro Bono**

• Mr. Connolly performs pro bono services for handicapped children.