

**New York City**  
Program Faculty

**A. Michael Furman, Esq.**

Furman Kornfeld & Brennan LLP  
61 Broadway, 26th Floor  
New York, NY 10006  
mfurman@fkbllp.com  
(212) 867-4100



Michael Furman, born in Brooklyn, NY, is a partner focusing on the defense of lawyers, insurance brokers and other professionals in complex professional liability litigation in Federal and State courts. Mr. Furman has extensive trial and appellate experience, having tried numerous jury trials in both Federal and State Courts throughout his career, and argued numerous appeals involving professional liability and insurance coverage matters.

Prior to entering private practice, Mr. Furman served as an assistant district attorney in the Trial Division of the New York County District Attorney's Office under Hon. Robert M. Morgenthau from 1989 to 1994.

Mr. Furman is a member of the Executive Committee and is the current Chair of the Trial Lawyers Section of the New York State Bar Association, and has previously served as Secretary (2012-13) and Treasurer (2011-12).

Mr. Furman is also a member of the Professional Liability Committee of the Torts, Insurance & Compensation Law Section of the New York State Bar Association, and the author of "Professional Liability Insurance," Insurance Law Practice, §37 (2d Ed 2006, NYSBA). Mr. Furman previously served as Chair of the Lawyers Professional Liability and Ethics Committee (Trial Lawyers Section) of the New York State Bar Association from 2009 to 2013, and is a member of the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers (APRL).

Mr. Furman is the Overall Planning Chairman of the Bi-Annual New York State Bar Association-sponsored bi-annual CLE statewide Legal Malpractice Seminar (2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2013) and editor in- chief of the NYSBA CLE Legal Malpractice course-book.



Mr. Furman also drafts insurance policies and represents insurers in coverage disputes involving financial institutions, professional liability, marine and non-marine risks. From 1997 to 1999, he worked in London for a major Lloyd's syndicate, served on various London market committees, and was co-chair of the Int'l/London Sub-committee of the Insurance Coverage Committee of the ABA Section of Litigation.

Mr. Furman has been involved in high exposure matters throughout his career, and represents the Lloyd's insurance market in the World Trade Center/September 11, 2001 liability insurance coverage litigation in the Southern District of New York.

Mr. Furman has lectured extensively in the United States and Europe on various insurance related topics, including professional liability issues and insurance coverage, and has written several insurance-related articles.

### **Education**

Brooklyn Law School, J.D. – 1989

St. John's University, B.S. – 1986

### **Bar and Court Admissions**

U.S. District Courts – Southern, Eastern and Northern Districts of New York,  
District of New Jersey

U.S. Court of Appeals – Second Circuit

### **State Admissions**

New York

New Jersey

### **Other Professional Affiliations**

Professional Liability Underwriting Society (PLUS)

Chair, Lawyers Professional Liability and Ethics Committee (Trial Lawyers Section) of the  
New York State

Bar Association

Insurance Coverage Committee of the Section of Litigation, American Bar Association

Torts and Insurance Practice Section, American Bar Association

Professional Liability Committee, NYSBA Torts, Insurance & Compensation Law Section

Member, Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers



**Brian Baney, Esq.**

Aspen Insurance Company  
One Upper Pond Road  
Parsippany, NJ 07054  
brian.baney@aspen-insurance.com  
(973) 394-5813



Brian has nearly 20 years' experience working in claims and as a litigator. He joined our senior management team in February 2011 to manage professional lines. Brian's previous roles include Assistant Vice President of Professional Programme claims at Zurich American Insurance Company and associate at Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edeleman & Dicker. He started his career as an auditor with KPMG-Peat Marwick after completing an internship at the New York State Attorney General's office. Brian is licensed to practice law in New York and New Jersey.

**Jonathan B. Bruno, Esq.**

Rivkin Radler, LLP  
477 Madison Ave, 20th Fl  
New York, NY 10022  
jonathan.bruno@rivkin.com  
(212) 455-9554



Jonathan Bruno focuses his practice on the defense of professionals. He has represented lawyers, accountants, insurance agents and brokers, real estate agents and brokers, title agents, claims adjusters, third-party administrators, securities broker/dealers, investment advisors, collection agencies, not-for-profit directors and officers, and other professionals in complex professional liability and commercial litigation. A member of the firm's Directors & Officers Liability, Employment & Labor, and Professional Liability Practice Groups, Jonathan also defends employers in employment litigation and counsels them on employment-related issues and compliance with federal, state, and local laws.

An experienced litigator, Jonathan has tried cases in federal and state courts, and has litigated cases before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the New York State Division of Human Rights, the New York City Commission on Human Rights, attorney disciplinary committees, and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). He has also argued numerous appeals before the Appellate Division of the New York State Supreme Court and the Second Circuit Court of Appeals involving legal malpractice, professional liability, and employment law cases.

Jonathan is an author and speaker on various topics, including legal malpractice litigation and risk management, legal malpractice claims against employed lawyers, bankruptcy and lawyer liability, FDIC claims against professionals, employment practices liability, Wage and Hour law, Sarbanes-Oxley whistleblower actions, cyberbullying, and alternative dispute resolution. He has also served as a program coach for the New York City Bar's Center for CLE Litigation Skills Workshop.

New York SuperLawyers magazine named Jonathan as one of the top attorneys in professional liability defense in the greater Metropolitan New York area for the years 2013-2016, recognition awarded to only 5% of lawyers in the state. He is also rated "AV



Preeminent" by Martindale-Hubbell, the highest level designation in professional excellence.

Jonathan has been featured numerous times in the "And the Defense Wins" section of The Voice, DRI's weekly e-newsletter.

A runner, Jon has recently completed his first 1/2 marathon and already has his eyes set on his second 1/2 marathon later this year.



**Alexandra Fridel, Esq.**

CNA Insurance  
125 Broad Street  
New York, NY 10004  
Alexandra.Fridel@cna.com  
(212) 440-7070



Since 2013, Alexandra Fridel has worked at CAN Insurance in New York, NY. She started her career at CAN Insurance as a Claims Consultant in Lawyers Professional Liability Claims, and now is the Claims Consulting Director of Lawyers Professional Liability Claims. Previously she was an Attorney at Haworth Coleman and Gerstman, LLC and Martin Clearwater & Bell. She has a Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature from Brandeis University and a J.D. from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University.



**Jason D. Joslyn, Esq.**

Travelers Insurance  
485 Lexington Ave Ste 400  
New York, NY 10017  
JJoslyn@travelers.com  
(917) 778-6079



Jason Joslyn, Esq. works for Travelers Insurance in their New York City location. He was admitted to the New York State bar in 2002 and received his J.D. from Pace University.





**Colleen McNicholas, Esq.**

Zurich North America  
1 Liberty Plz Fl 32  
New York, NY 10006  
colleen.mcnicholas@zurichna.com  
(212) 553-5633



Colleen McNicholas, Esq. is the Director of Professional Program Claims for Zurich North American Insurance Company in their New York City location. She was admitted to the New York State bar in 1997 and received her J.D. from Albany Law School.

## **Mike Mooney**

USI Affinity

Senior Vice President – Professional

Liability Practice Leader

One International Plaza, Suite 400

Philadelphia, PA 19113

mike.mooney@usiaffinity.com

(610) 833-1800



Mike Mooney is the Senior Vice President and Professional Liability Practice Leader for USI Affinity. Mike's responsibility is to drive growth and provide strategic leadership in the area of professional liability. Mike's key focus is the management and development of existing programs, new programs, business development and marketing planning. Mike oversees the underwriting, operations, and sales departments that support the professional liability programs.

.Mike is also responsible for coordinating the program management for USI Affinity's endorsed insurance programs, including The New York State Bar Association, The New Jersey State Bar Association, DC Bar, Boston Bar, and Exponent Philanthropy.

With more than 10 years of industry experience, Mike has worked extensively on many facets of insurance programs for professional service firms. Prior to joining USI Affinity, Mike spent over 8 years with Aon in a variety of management roles. Most notably, Mike was the Assistant Vice President and National Sales Manager for Aon Affinity's Healthcare Division, and also spent time as the National Sales Manager for the AICPA Accountant's Professional Liability Program.

Mike currently sits on the Law Practice Management Services Committee of the DC Bar. Mike is a regular speaker and panelist for the Law Practice Sections of the NYSBA, NJSBA, and NJICLE regarding Insurance and Risk Management topics relative to the legal industry.

Mike holds a Property and Casualty Insurance License in New Jersey and many non-resident Producer Licenses in a variety of other states. He graduated from Rowan University in New Jersey with a Bachelors Degree in Business Management.



**Elizabeth Mulligan, Esq.**

Lawyers Protector Plans

P.O. Box 172788

Tampa, FL 33672

EMulligan@bbprograms.com

813-222-4163



Elizabeth Mulligan, Esq. works for Lawyers Protector Plans (LLP), a comprehensive approach to lawyers professional liability insurance service that includes high quality insurance products, risk management benefits, specialized customer service, and an in-house claims department.



**Harold Neher, Esq.**

AXIS Insurance  
300 Connell Drive, Suite 8000  
P.O. Box 357  
Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922  
harold.neher@axiscapital.com  
(908) 508-4392



Harold Neher, Esq. is the Vice President, AXIS PNP Claims Manager, of the Berkeley Heights Claims department. He been with AXIS Insurance since July 2006, handling complex D&O and Financial Institutions E&O matters in addition to supervising Fiduciary Liability claims. Prior to AXIS, Harold spent almost three years with Gulf Insurance and Travelers handling both D&O and E&O, seven years at Risk Enterprise Management involved in D&O, Miscellaneous Professional Liability and Complex Casualty claims and seven years prior to that in private practice. Harold is a cum laude graduate of The Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and the City University of New York.

**Michael S. Ross, Esq.**

Law Offices of Michael S. Ross  
60 East 42nd Street, 47th Floor  
New York, NY 10165  
michaelross@rosslaw.org  
(212) 505-4060



Michael S. Ross is the principal of the Law Offices of Michael S. Ross, where he concentrates his practice in attorney ethics and criminal law. He is a former Assistant United States Attorney in the Criminal Division of the Southern District of New York and also served as an Assistant District Attorney in Kings County. Mr. Ross has been an Adjunct Professor at Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School since 1980 (where he teaches Fall and Spring Semester courses in Litigation Ethics). Mr. Ross has also taught a variety of trial practice and judicial administration courses as an Adjunct Associate Professor at Brooklyn Law School since 2005 (where he teaches a Fall course in Professional Responsibility, and has taught Spring and Summer courses over the years as well). In addition, in three and a half decades of teaching at Cardozo Law School, he has taught a variety of ethics, trial practice and judicial administration courses.

Mr. Ross is a frequent lecturer and author on topics involving ethics, trial practice and criminal law for such organizations as the Practising Law Institute, the Appellate Divisions, First and Second Departments, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, the New York State Judicial Institute, the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, the New York State Bar Association, the New York County Lawyers' Association, the New York State Association of Trial Lawyers and the New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers.

Mr. Ross currently serves as a member of the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Professional Discipline; the New York County Lawyers' Association Committee on Professional Discipline; the New York State Bar Association's Special Committee on the Unlawful Practice of Law; and the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Mass Disasters. He previously served for a number of terms on the Association of the Bar of the City Of New York's Committee on Professional Discipline, the New York State Bar Association Special Committee on Procedures for Judicial Discipline, and the New York State Bar Association's Task Force On Lawyer Advertising.



**Marian C. Rice, Esq.**

L'Abbate Balkan Colavita & Contini, LLP  
1001 Franklin Avenue  
3rd Floor, Suite 300  
Garden City, NY 11530-2901  
(516) 837-7415  
mrice@lbcclaw.com



For more than 35 years, Ms. Rice has concentrated her practice on the representation of attorneys and risk management for lawyers. Ms. Rice holds the AV® Peer Review Rating from Martindale- Hubbell, its highest rating for ethics and legal ability, has been designated a Super Lawyer annually since 2008 and was assigned a “superb” AVVO rating. In 2012, Long Island Business News named Ms. Rice as one of the 50 most influential women on Long Island.

Ms. Rice is the Chair of the New York State Bar Association Law Practice Management Committee, a member of the NYSBA Bar Journal editorial board and an alternate member of the NYSBA Nominating Committee. In addition to having authored a column for the American Bar Association Law Practice Management Magazine, Ms. Rice is a Past President of the 5,000 member Nassau County Bar Association, the largest suburban bar association in the country. In 2014, Ms. Rice was awarded the NCBA President’s Award for service to the Association and in 2015, she was honored by the St. John’s Law School Alumni Nassau Chapter.

Ms. Rice also served as an ABA Presidential appointee to the ABA Standing Committee on Lawyer's Professional Liability from 2009 through 2012 and was Chair of the New York State Bar Association - Committee for Insurance Programs from 2008 to 2013. Ms. Rice is a member of the Professional Liability Underwriting Society; the Defense Association of New York and the Defense Research Institute.

In addition to being a New York State Bar Association Presidential appointee to the Task Force on Non-Lawyer Ownership and the Special Committee on Legal Specialization, Ms. Rice has served on the Torts, Insurance and Compensation Law Section. Her prior roles at the Nassau County Bar Association include President 2012-2013, President Elect 2011-2012, First Vice President 2010-2011, Second Vice President 2009-2010, Treasurer 2008-2009, Secretary 2007-2008, Director 2004-2007, Judiciary Committee (Chair 2015-2016 and 2006-2007), Vice-Chair (2005-2006), Strategic Planning Committee (Chair 2005-2006) (Vice-Chair 2003-2005), Nassau Lawyer/Publications Committee (Editor in Chief 2006



2007) (Co- Managing Editor 2005-2006). She is also a member of Nassau-Suffolk Trial Lawyers and the Suffolk County Bar Association.

Ms. Rice has authored materials for numerous publications and newsletters, including the New York Law Journal, BNA publications, the New York State Bar Journal and Nassau Lawyer, and has lectured for the Professional Liability Underwriting Society, the ABA Standing Committee on Lawyer's Professional Liability, PLI, the National Legal Malpractice and Risk Management Conference, the Nassau and Suffolk County Bar Associations, the New York State Bar Association, the New York City Bar and the American Conference Institute, as well as for various law firms, insurers, law schools and trade associations, at seminars covering such diverse topics as Risk Management and Loss Prevention for Attorneys, The Elements of and Defenses to a Legal Malpractice Action, Legal Malpractice Principles and Trial Strategy, The Anatomy of a Disciplinary Proceeding, What Damages are Recoverable and What are the Limitations?, What Makes Lawyers Happy?, Representing the Client with Greater Concerns, Ethical Issues with Email, Cyber-Security and Law Firms, Federal Statutes Affecting Attorneys, Preparing, Defending and Preventing Claims Stemming From Tax Shelter Advice, Social Media and Ethics, Whither Privity?, Defending Attorneys with Psychological Difficulties, Can the Jury Award That? Beyond Out of Pocket Damages in Professional Liability Cases, Avoiding Malpractice and Client Grievances, Protecting Your Practice, Top Ten Traps (resulting in malpractice claims and grievances), Disqualification of Legal Malpractice Experts, Identification and Resolution of Conflicts of Interest, Risk Management for Defense Attorneys, Ethics in the Wake of the New Rules of Professional Conduct; Law Practice Management under the New York Rules of Professional Conduct; Ethics in the Profession, Anatomy of a Legal Malpractice Action, Don't Make Malpractice Your Nightmare, Improving Communication Skills with Clients, Legal Malpractice Issues and Trends, Risks Presented by Law Firm Mergers, Risk Management Techniques for Real Estate Attorneys, Risk Management Techniques for Matrimonial Attorneys, Risk Management Techniques for Trust and Estate Attorneys, Starting Your Own Law Practice, Ethical Issues Confronting Claims Attorneys in Handling and Evaluating Claims and Attorney Liability under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

From 1999 to 2003, Ms. Rice administered the Attorney Loss Prevention Hotline Service for the broker responsible for the NYSBA sponsored professional liability insurer.

Ms. Rice received her Juris Doctorate from St. John's University School of Law, Jamaica, New York in 1979 and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Fordham College at Fordham University in 1976. She was admitted to practice before the Courts of the State of New York in 1980 and is also admitted before the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, as well as several other jurisdictions on a pro hac vice basis.

From 1984 to 2000, Ms. Rice was a Governor-appointed member of the Council for the State University of New York Maritime College at Fort Schuyler.



Mr. Ross completed a five-year tenure as an appointed member of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board, which, among other things, formulates CLE guidelines in the State. Mr. Ross has chaired the American Bar Association ("ABA") Grand Jury Committee and the City Bar Association's Committee on Criminal Advocacy. He previously served as the ABA Criminal Justice Section's liaison to the ABA Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility and was an appointed member of the ABA's Special Criminal Justice In Crisis Committee.

Among his writings, Mr. Ross has co-authored a chapter on "Client and Witness Perjury," for the ABA's Section of Litigation ethics training course book entitled "Litigation Ethics: Course Materials For Continuing Legal Education." The course book was developed for use nationally by law firms, bar associations and other groups which provide ethics training.





**Brett Scher, Esq.**

Kaufman Dolowich & Voluck, LLP  
60 Broad Street, Suite 3600  
New York, NY 10004  
bscher@kdvlaw.com  
(212) 485-9950



Brett A. Scher is a partner at Kaufman Dolowich & Voluck, LLP. His practice includes litigation in the fields of professional liability, insurance coverage disputes, commercial matters, and class action defense. Mr. Scher's practice addresses litigation on the trial and appellate levels throughout the United States in both state and federal courts. In the area of professional liability, his practice includes complex attorney malpractice claims arising from underlying commercial litigation, securities law, real estate, personal injury, corporate governance, entertainment law, and patent/trademark issues. He also represents several companies with respect to the defense of individual and class action claims under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the Telephone Consumer Protection Act and the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.

Mr. Scher also represents accountants, actuaries and insurance brokers/agents, and third party administrators on errors and omissions claims. He also focuses on claims involving real estate issues, including the defense of home appraisers, surveyors, home inspectors, real estate agents, lenders, building management companies, co-op and condo boards, and real estate brokers. His insurance coverage practice focuses on policy drafting and coverage services with respect to professional liability policies, technology policies, investment management policies and commercial general liability policies.

Mr. Scher has served as international coverage/monitoring counsel for two of the largest domestic insurers, supervising securities law class actions and professional negligence claims, for more than 10 years.

**Philip Touitou Esq.**

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP  
800 Third Avenue, 13th Floor  
New York, NY 10022  
ptouitou@hinshawlaw.com  
(212) 471-6200



Philip Touitou has extensive experience representing clients in complex commercial litigation matters. His practice focuses on business disputes, including corporate class actions, breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, business torts, professional liability, directors and officers' liability, captive insurance liability and insurance coverage matters.

Mr. Touitou joined Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP in July 2004. Previously, he was a partner at a mid-sized New York law firm, where he served as chair of the firm's Continuing Legal Education Committee and as a member of the Partner-Associate Liaison Committee. From 1989 to 1992, Mr. Touitou was an associate with the Newark, New Jersey, firm of Saiber Schlesinger Satz & Goldstein. In 1988, he worked as a judicial clerk/intern for Hon. Alfred M. Wolin of the U.S. District Court in Newark, New Jersey. Mr. Touitou is a member of the New York City Bar. He holds a Certificate of Proficiency in French from Rutgers College.

Clients that Mr. Touitou has represented include Chubb Insurance Group; American International Group, Inc.; Gulf Insurance Group; Zurich N.A.; Westport Insurance (GE), Renaissance Re, CCC Insurance Co. (Bermuda), Ltd.; Western Union Corp., Inc.; Herbert Mines Associates, Inc.; Hallmark Entertainment Inc.; and Crowne Media Holdings, Inc.

Mr. Touitou has been quoted in a number of publications, including The Wall Street Journal, New York Law Journal and Risk & Insurance Magazine. His publications include "Directors and Officers: The Role of Motive in Defining the Line Between Good Faith and Bad," published in Bloomberg Law Reports®, Vol. 4, No. 2, February 7, 2011.