



John B. Connarton

Partner

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Experience

John B. Connarton, Jr., is a Partner at Donovan Hatem, and has been engaged in trial practice since 1973 with emphasis on professional liability, product liability, construction litigation, insurance coverage disputes and business litigation, including trade regulation matters. His practice has included the successful defense of numerous professional liability claims against accountants, attorneys, and various types of brokers including claims related to tax liabilities, audit procedures, securities fraud, and commercial and contract disputes. He has also represented accountants in investigations and hearings before the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C. His work with architects and engineers has included various types of projects including in 2009 successfully resolving a \$40 million claim asserted against the architects and engineers involved in the construction of a state of the art science and math building at a noted private school and in 2006 completing a six week trial of a \$50 million claim against three architectural and engineering firms involved in the construction of the \$500 million Boston Exposition and Convention Center.

Jack's product liability work is international in scope and has included the successful defense of numerous U.S., European and Asian manufacturers in multi-million dollar product liability claims including receiving defense verdicts in the largest claims asserted in the U.S. against two Japanese recreational product manufacturers, an Austrian ski equipment manufacturer and a U.S. nationwide recreational product retailer. He has also provided the defense of a major U.S. tobacco company including its successful prosecution of constitutional claims before the U.S. Supreme Court.

An active member of the Professional Liability Underwriting Society, Product Liability Advisory Council, International Association of Defense Counsel and Defense Research Institute, Jack has spoken at numerous legal educational conferences. He co-authored DRI's *Products Liability Pre-Trial Notebook*, DRI's *Spoilation of Evidence, A State by State Compendium*, both editions of IADC's *Defense Counsel Training Manual* and was a regional coordinator for DRI's *Product Liability Defenses, A State By State Compendium*. He has served as Chair of the IADC's Legal Malpractice Committee, Vice Chair of IADC's Construction Law Committee, Vice Chair of the Product Liability Committees of both the IADC and DRI and Chair of DRI's Recreational Products Specialized Litigation Group. He also has served as President of the International Association of Ski Defense Attorneys.

A graduate of Boston College, a former artillery officer with the U.S. Army and an Honors graduate of the University of Maryland Law School, Jack is a member of the bar in Massachusetts and Maryland, the 1st and 4th U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal and the U.S. Supreme Court.

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(John B. Connarton, continued)

Admitted to Bar

- Massachusetts
- Maryland
- United States Court of Appeals, First Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit
- United States Supreme Court

Business and Professional Associations

- Boston Bar Association
- Massachusetts Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- International Association of Defense Counsel
- Product Liability Advisory Council
- Defense Research Institute
- Professional Liability Underwriting Society
- American Boat and Yacht Council
- Massachusetts Defense Lawyers Association
- Association of Ski Defense Attorneys

Education

- University of Maryland (J.D., With Honors, 1973)
- Boston College (A.B., 1967)

Articles and Publications

First Circuit Recognizes Applicability of Work-Product Doctrine to Tax Accrual Work Papers, The Accountant/Attorney Liability Reporter, March 2009.

The Role of Expert Witnesses In A Claim Against An Engineer, Structure, July, 2011

Fair Value Opinion Engagements, The Accountant/Attorney Liability Reporter, March/April 2011

Product Liability Pre-Trial Notebook, Defense Research Institute

Spoilation of Evidence, A State By State Compendium, Defense Research Institute

Defense Counsel Training Manual, International Association of Defense Counsel

Product Liability Defenses, A State By State Compendium, Defense Research Institute

Additional Information

- Reaching the height of professional excellence, Jack has received an AV Peer Review Rating from *Martindale-Hubbell*.

