

PARTNER

Michael S. Melville

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BOSTON

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PRACTICE AREAS

Appellate Litigation
 Bad Faith
 Construction Litigation
 Environmental Law & Toxic Torts
 First-Party Claims
 Insurance Coverage
 Premises Liability

EDUCATION

Boston College Law School, J.D.
magna cum laude; Order of the Coif; Boston College Law Review, Note Editor
 Clark University, B.A., Economics,
summa cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa

ADMISSIONS

Massachusetts
 Pennsylvania
 U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts

MEMBERSHIPS

Massachusetts Bar Association
 Boston Bar Association
 Worcester County Bar Association
 Philadelphia Bar Association
 Massachusetts Defense Lawyers Association (MassDLA)
 Defense Research Institute (DRI)

Overview

Mike's practice centers on complex insurance coverage matters, complex commercial disputes, defense of consumer protection matters, and high stakes litigation. Mike handles sensitive and high exposure breach of contract, premises liability, and intellectual property matters. Mike also handles toxic tort matters arising from alleged exposure to chemicals. Further, he has defended large national carriers and their insureds in large property losses, fire losses, mold, and water damage. He works with a variety of expert witnesses to inspect and investigate large losses both pre-suit and during litigation. He is passionate about ensuring client receive the highest quality representation possible. His understanding of the law has resulted in a solid record of success with trials and dispositive motion practice in state and federal courts across the Commonwealth.

Mike is adept at navigating complicated insurance-related issues. He regularly provides our clients with analysis of coverage on a variety of issues and types of insurance policies. He is dedicated to ensuring client receive advice about this complex, highly regulated, and constantly evolving area of law.

Mike's experience extends to representing clients before appellate courts, including the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

Prior to joining the firm, Mike served as the Senior Law Clerk to the Honorable Denis P. Cohen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas, 1st Judicial District.

Select Results

- Defense Verdict in Serious Collision in Callahan Tunnel
- Massachusetts Appeals Court | Ruling of First Impression Holds Faulty Workmanship Without More is Not "Property Damage"
- USDC-MA | Insurance Company Dismissal in Civil Rights Violation Claim
- SJC Grants Summary Judgment for Auto Dealership / Graves Amendment Applies to Courtesy Vehicle
- Mass. Appeals Court Determines No "Occurrence" for Intentional Business Act
- SJC Finds No Bad Faith By Insurer In Fatal Arson Claim / Insured Receives 50% Proceeds
- Summary Judgment Granted / Arson at Vacant Property
- Summary Judgment in Bad Faith Case / Atty's Fees and Costs Not To Be Considered in Offer

Notable Articles

- [Bona Fide Personnel Actions in Massachusetts \(2014\)](#)

Recognitions

- Michael has been named to *The Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch for Appellate Litigation (2023-2025)*.

Notable

- Publications: *Bona Fide Personnel Actions in Massachusetts*
Lawrence H. Lessard & another vs. R.C. Havens & Sons, Inc., & others, 104 Mass. 572 (2024)