



Joseph Kernen

Partner

MANAGING PARTNER, PHILADELPHIA OFFICE

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Joe Kernen has a diverse litigation practice with emphasis on commercial litigation, class action matters, construction litigation and employment disputes.

In his 25 years with the firm, Joe has successfully represented corporate clients in a wide variety of matters. He has served as lead counsel defending insurance companies, lenders, retailers, motor vehicle and other consumer products manufacturers and telecommunications companies in class action matters; a national accounting firm in fraud and breach of contract matters in courts and arbitration proceedings around the country; large real estate developers in construction litigation; an online auction company in fraud and breach of contract litigation; a national retailer in contract and employment litigation; and both landlords and tenants in commercial lease disputes. He has defended a national sports and entertainment company in commercial contract disputes and companies of all sizes in construction-related controversies.

Joe also has significant experience counseling and defending companies in a variety of employment-related matters, including counseling on wage and hour issues and defending FLSA class actions; defending employment discrimination charges; obtaining and resisting temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions in non-competition/trade secret litigation; and advising on employment contracts, handbooks and policies and procedures. Joe also advises employers in connection with investigations into harassment, fraud and other allegations of misconduct of employees at all levels. He also represents senior business executives in contract negotiations.

Joe is Managing Partner of the Philadelphia Office. He previously served as the Chair of the Philadelphia Litigation Department and Philadelphia Office Hiring Partner.

EXPERIENCE

REPRESENTATIVE CLASS ACTION MATTERS

- Defeated conditional certification of FLSA wage and hour and related class action claims against a national retailer
- Obtained dismissal of bad faith, breach of contract and consumer fraud act claims asserted by class against insurance carrier
- Won summary judgment dismissing all national class allegations of consumer fraud and breach of warranty against large automaker

RELATED SERVICES

- Class Actions
- Employment
- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- Product Liability, Mass Torts and Product Stewardship

- Obtained dismissal of national class action against global lender
- Won dismissal of all class action allegations against automaker in a case asserting fraud, consumer fraud and breach of warranty
- Negotiated several favorable nationwide settlements of consumer fraud and breach of warranty claims against consumer product manufacturers and automakers

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLISHED OPINIONS

- *Nabi v. Hudson Group (HG) Retail, LLC*, 2015 WL 5843210 (S.D.N.Y. September 28, 2015)
- *Grudkowski v. Foremost Ins. Co.*, 2013 WL 816666 (M.D. Pa. March 5, 2013) reconsideration denied, 2013 WL 3322347 (M.D. Pa. July 1, 2013)
- *Calender v. NVR, Inc.*, 2012 WL 4482009 (D.N.J. September 26, 2012)
- *Khan v. Airport Management Services, LLC*, 2011 WL 5597371 (S.D.N.Y. 2011)
- *Gilbert Noble v. Porsche Cars North America, Inc.*, 2010 WL 606305 (D. N.J. 2010)
- *Robert Reibstein v. Continental Tire North America, Inc., et ano.*, 2007 US Dist. LEXIS 24755 (E.D. Pa. 2007)
- *Amtrak v. Pa. PUC*, 288 F.3d 519 (3d Cir. 2002)
- *Woodrow Guyton, III v. AM General*, 2001 US Dist. Lexis 21012 (E.D. Pa. 2001)
- *County Council of Northampton County v. SHL Systemhouse Corp. v. Northampton County*, 60 F. Supp. 456 (E.D. Pa. 1999)
- *Eagle Computer Associates v. Chesapeake Software Services, Inc., et al.*, 1999 US Dist. Lexis 17509 (E.D. Pa. 1999)
- *Alfred J. Dandurand v. CNA Insurance Company*, 1998 US Dist. Lexis 5089 (E.D. Pa. 1998)
- *Edward Blizzard v. Motorola, Inc. v. General Electric Mobile Communications Distribution, Inc., et al.*, 1996 US Dist. Lexis 1959 (E.D. Pa. 1996)
- *United States Fidelity & Guaranty Company v. US Healthcare, Inc., et ano.*, 1996 US Dist Lexis 15566 (E.D. Pa. 1996)

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- New Jersey
- New York

Recognitions

- In 2015, the BTI Consulting Group, based on extensive client interviews, again named Joe in its annual BTI Client Service All-Stars Report, which recognizes lawyers who deliver "The best client service to Fortune 1000 companies."

For more information, pursuant to New Jersey Lawyer Advertising guidance, please click here.

Education

- J.D., New York University
- B.A., Pennsylvania State University
summa cum laude

Memberships

- American Bar Association

Civic and Charitable

- Leadership Counsel, KIPP Philadelphia
- Advisory Board, Homeless Advocacy Project, Philadelphia
- Board Member, Nether Providence Township Athletic Association
- Member, Environmental Action Committee, Nether Providence Township
- Past Board Member, Pennsylvania State University, Schreyer Honors College Scholar Alumni Society Board

INSIGHTS

Events

- Presenter, "The Attorney-Client Privilege and Corporate Internal Investigations," DELVACCA's 4th Annual In House Counsel Conference (April 16, 2012)