



Joseph K. Scully

Partner

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Overview

Joseph Scully, an experienced litigator, primarily represents insurance companies in insurance coverage actions and reinsurance disputes. He has litigated coverage disputes in state and federal courts, including disputes arising from asbestos and other product liability claims, environmental losses, fire and other property damage, construction defects, and equipment breakdown claims. Joseph also has handled and tried disputes involving reinsurance claims before arbitration panels and in state and federal courts.

Joseph has tried complex civil disputes in courts throughout New England, as well as Delaware, Maryland, New York, Ohio and Texas. Clients seek out his experience taking matters to trial in state and federal courts and litigating numerous arbitrations through final hearings. He is also sought out for his handling of appeals before courts, including the First Circuit Court of Appeals and state appellate courts in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island.

Joseph has authored numerous articles and presented at industry conferences on a variety of cutting-edge insurance and reinsurance topics. He serves on the Board of the Greater Hartford Legal Aid Foundation and devotes significant pro bono hours working with the Connecticut Fair Housing Center.

Before entering private practice, Joseph served as a law clerk to The Honorable Edward F. Harrington, U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Experience

Successfully argued appeal to First Circuit upholding trial court's dismissal of coverage dispute concerning underlying claims for trademark infringement under Coverage B

Court appointed *pro bono* counsel in bench trial challenging terms of confinement under the First Amendment

Tried to jury verdict asbestos coverage dispute in Delaware Superior Court involving claims for coverage exceeding \$50 million of coverage

Represented ceding insurance company in series of reinsurance disputes in federal court in Connecticut and Ohio seeking reinsurance recovery arising from \$449 million asbestos settlement

Practices & Industries

[Energy Litigation](#)

[Insurance & Reinsurance](#)

[Insurance and Reinsurance Disputes](#)

[Litigation](#)

Represented reinsurer in arbitration concerning allocation of environmental losses

Tried bench trial of successor liability claims and successfully defended judgment on appeal to Second Circuit

Briefed and argued appeal to Connecticut Supreme Court overturning trial court's finding of breach of contract involving significant issues related to Bankruptcy Code

Successfully prosecuted an interlocutory appeal resulting in the reversal of a trial court's denial of an insurer's motion for summary judgment on the basis that the plaintiff had signed a release of all its claims

Defended property insurer against multi-million dollar claim for business interruption losses in the Southern District of Texas

Briefed issue of first impression on significant insurance coverage issues on behalf of amicus curiae before the Connecticut Supreme Court

Defended equipment breakdown insurer in the United States District Court of Rhode Island against claims of breach of contract and bad faith arising from the denial of business interruption losses

Represented ceding company against claims by its reinsurers that the cedent's post-settlement allocation of losses was done in bad faith for the purposes of maximizing reinsurance recoveries

Represented a variety of life and disability insurers against breach of contract and unfair claims practices claims

Tried breach of fiduciary duty and theft of corporate opportunity claim against rogue corporate officer

Represented *pro bono* a fair housing center seeking compensatory damages and injunctive relief arising from landlord's discriminatory rental practices

Education and Credentials

Education

Harvard Law School, J.D., 1999

Fordham University, B.A., *summa cum laude*, 1996

Admissions

U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

State of Rhode Island

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State of Connecticut

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan

U.S. District Court, District of Rhode Island

U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas

U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York

Affiliations

American Bar Foundation, Fellow
AIDA Reinsurance and Insurance Arbitration Society (ARIAS-U.S.)
Hartford County Bar Association
Connecticut Bar Foundation, James W. Cooper Fellow
Oliver Ellsworth Inn of Court
American Bar Association
Boston Bar Association
Rhode Island Bar Association
Defense Research Institute
Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel

Recognition and Community

No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the highest court of any state. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome. See Awards Methodology.

Recognitions

Chosen for inclusion in *Who's Who Legal USA* (Law Business Research Ltd), Insurance and Reinsurance, 2024
Chosen for inclusion in the *Chambers USA Legal Directory* (Chambers & Partners) of recognized practitioners for Insurance in Connecticut, 2024
Chosen for inclusion in the *Chambers USA Legal Directory* (Chambers & Partners) of recognized practitioners for Litigation: General Commercial in Connecticut, 2014-2023
Chosen for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* (Woodward/White, Inc.), Insurance Law, 2017-2025, Reinsurance Law, 2020-2025
Selected to the list of Connecticut *Super Lawyers* (Thomson Reuters), Insurance Coverage, Business Litigation, 2013-2024
Recognized as a leading litigation practitioner in *Benchmark Litigation: The Definitive Guide to America's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys*, 2009-2015
Selected to the list of Connecticut *Super Lawyers* Rising Stars (Thomson Reuters), 2010-2012

Community Involvement

Greater Hartford Legal Aid Foundation, Board Member
Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society, Board of Editors, *Connecticut Supreme Court History*, 2006 - 2016
Leadership Greater Hartford, *Quest* program, 2009
Greater Hartford Legal Aid Foundation, Associates' Campaign, Co-Chair, 2006
Ancient Order of Hibernians
Statewide political campaigns, Volunteer

Insights

How to Cheat in Arbitration – Allegedly: Part II
Q2 2024

How to Cheat in Arbitration – Allegedly: Part I
Q4 2023

New York Court of Appeals Decision Clarifies Scope of N.Y. Ins. Law § 3420
November 29, 2017

First Circuit Requires District Court of Rhode Island to Justify Foreclosure Stay
June 24, 2013

News

Chambers Recognizes Day Pitney with Elevated Rankings Across Practices and Attorneys
June 6, 2024

Day Pitney Partner Joseph Scully Named to Who's Who Legal List for Insurance & Reinsurance 2024
May 17, 2024

Day Pitney Partner Joseph Scully Named to Who's Who Legal List for Insurance & Reinsurance 2023
July 5, 2023

Chambers USA 2023 Ranks 35 Day Pitney Attorneys and 13 Practices
June 1, 2023

Chambers USA 2022 Ranks 34 Day Pitney Attorneys and 13 Practices
June 1, 2022

Chambers USA 2021 Ranks 31 Day Pitney Attorneys and 13 Practices
May 21, 2021

Chambers USA 2020 Ranks 34 Day Pitney Attorneys and 12 Practices
April 30, 2020

Chambers USA 2019 Ranks 38 Day Pitney Attorneys and 12 Practices
May 8, 2019

Chambers USA 2018 Ranks 39 Day Pitney Attorneys and 11 Practices
May 25, 2018

Chambers USA 2017 Ranks 41 Day Pitney Attorneys
May 26, 2017

87 Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2016 Super Lawyers List
November 10, 2016

71 Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2017 Best Lawyers List
August 15, 2016

Chambers USA 2016 Ranks 47 Day Pitney Attorneys
May 27, 2016

91 Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2015 Super Lawyers List
October 30, 2015

Chambers USA 2015 Ranks 51 Day Pitney Attorneys
May 21, 2015

Eighty-Four Day Pitney Attorneys Recognized by Super Lawyers for 2014
November 3, 2014

Chambers USA 2014 Ranks 46 Day Pitney Attorneys
May 23, 2014

Eighty-eight Day Pitney Attorneys Recognized by *Super Lawyers* for 2013
October 22, 2013

Ninety-eight Day Pitney Attorneys Recognized by *Super Lawyers*
October 22, 2012

In The Media

1st Circ. Brushes Off Dental Co.'s Insurance Claim For TM Suit
Law360, July 3, 2019

Moderator, "Reinsurance Roundtable 2014," HB Litigation Conferences, New York, NY, September 15, 2014
September 15, 2014

Insurance Law: State Supreme Court's Capstone Decision Addresses Key Topics
Connecticut Law Tribune, November 26, 2013

Market-Based Reforms: New and Emerging Arbitration Clauses
2010 Spring Conference of AIDA Reinsurance and Insurance Arbitration Society, ARIAS-U.S., May 2010