



MICHAEL J. JOYCE

ASSOCIATE

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SERVICES

Litigation
Commercial Litigation
Insurance Litigation and
Arbitration
Employee Benefits and
ERISA Litigation
First Amendment Media
Restrictive Covenants Trade
Secrets and Unfair
Competition

INDUSTRIES

Insurance
Energy
Telecommunications

Michael Joyce assists clients with litigation, including a wide variety of commercial disputes and insurance matters. His commercial litigation experience includes high-stakes contractual disputes, intellectual property and software cases, trade secret misappropriation and other injunction matters, and construction cases. Michael's insurance litigation work includes defending fiduciaries against claims asserted under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). His ERISA experience also encompasses the defense of a global health insurance and health service company against ERISA benefit claims.

Michael also represents media industry clients, including news media agencies and television producers, on matters ranging from defamation to privacy issues to government open records/Right to Know Law disputes.

EXPERIENCE

Commercial Litigation

Michael has guided a variety of commercial clients across many industries through high-stakes disputes, including:

- A world leader in metal products and recycling in a multi-billion dollar intellectual property and trade secret dispute with another industry giant
 - A large natural gas utility in emergency response and related issues following a pipeline explosion
 - A regional health system in sophisticated litigation regarding failed electronic health records and health system integration software
 - An energy sector client building a new power plant in Western Pennsylvania, which resulted in an injunction in favor of the client against interfering parties
 - A leading telecommunications company in various commercial and consumer disputes
 - Michael has also litigated several restrictive covenant and trade secret cases through injunction proceedings and further dispute processes.
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Insurance Litigation and Arbitration

Michael has worked with insurance industry clients in disputes in many forums, including arbitrations, state court, and federal court, including:

- The defense of a large insurer in federal litigation involving the lapse of an insurance policy with a value of over \$6 million, which included allegations of insurer bad faith
 - The defense of a large insurer on a coverage dispute involving a health network's antitrust dispute with a major competitor
 - The representation of a title insurer in its investigation and prosecution of claims in a closing agent defalcation case
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Employee Benefits and ERISA Litigation

As a subset of his general insurance litigation practice, Michael represents clients in complex ERISA matters, including:

- The defense of an industry leading healthcare and insurance company regarding disability and related fiduciary duty claims under ERISA
 - The defense of a pension/retirement committee in a \$15 million breach of fiduciary duty claim brought by the U.S. Department of Labor under ERISA
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First Amendment/Media

Michael has represented a number of media industry clients in pre-litigation activities, and guided them through other litigation, including:

- A television reality show producer facing allegations of invasion of privacy and related claims. The defense resulted in the pretrial dismissal of the case
 - A regional media company and newspaper in open records/government litigation, which resulted in an order requiring the disclosure of withheld information regarding a potential regional health crisis in Western Pennsylvania, and imposition of a record-setting sanctions award (including the reimbursement of attorneys' fees)
 - A local advertising agency on a commercial construction dispute
 - A regional newspaper facing allegations of defamation, which resulted in the early dismissal of the action
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MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Leadership Pittsburgh, LDI XXIII

Pressley Ridge Associate Board

Pittsburgh CLO Ambassador

EDUCATION

J.D., *summa cum laude*, Duquesne University School of Law, 2011

- Valedictorian
- Production Editor, *Duquesne Law Review*
- Distinguished Student Award, 2011
- CALI Excellence for the Future Award - Torts, Property, Contracts, Federal Taxation, Estates & Trusts, Family Law, Internet Law, and Securities Regulation

B.S.B.A., *summa cum laude*, Duquesne University, 2009

BAR ADMISSION

Pennsylvania

West Virginia

FIRM MANAGEMENT POSITIONS

Hiring Committee