



Dexter R. Hamilton

Member

Philadelphia

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Dexter R. Hamilton handles complex litigation matters for major corporations, governmental organizations, and nonprofit entities. He is an experienced trial attorney and practices in the areas of commercial litigation, construction litigation, product liability, and toxic tort litigation. In the past several years, he has tried many cases to verdict including three commercial matters, a legal malpractice case and a mass tort matter involving a potentially fatal disease. He has been lead counsel in complex matters in state and federal courts in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia and North Carolina.

Dexter serves as general counsel for a health system and advises the organization in a variety of matters including litigation, labor and employment, compliance, contracts, internal investigations, and corporate governance.

He leads the Philadelphia Trial Group, a select group of experienced trial attorneys who are uniquely qualified to defend, prosecute, or try significant matters in the Philadelphia state and federal courts.

Dexter participates in a number of civic and community activities. He is General Counsel for the African American Chamber of Commerce of PA, NJ, DE. He serves as a Judge Pro Tempore for the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, where he presides at settlement conferences. He is a member of The Historical Society of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and a member of the board of the Lawyers Club of Philadelphia. Previously, he served on the board of directors of the Bethesda Project, an organization that serves the chronically homeless and was appointed by the Mayor of Philadelphia to the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations.

Dexter earned his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1987, where he was the recipient of the Civil Trial Advocacy Award and was elected by his peers to be an officer of his graduating class. He earned his B.A., magna cum laude from Widener University in 1983, where he was recognized as the most outstanding student in political science. He is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania in and New Jersey.

Experience

Represented a manufacturer in a commercial dispute with a distributor. Plaintiff's initial damages estimate was \$26,000,000. After a jury trial and a second trial on damages only, Plaintiff was awarded less than a million dollars.

Represented the manufacturer of asbestos containing brake lining against an individual with mesothelioma. The jury gave the manufacturer a defendant's verdict.

Represented a worker's compensation insurance company in a lawsuit against a broker for negligence and a policyholder for fraud. The damages alleged were in excess of \$4,000,000. Successfully proved fraud against the policyholder by clear and convincing evidence.

Co-chaired a legal malpractice trial on behalf of prominent law firm in a matter brought by a shareholder of a former corporate client. The matter involved whether the owners of the closely held

Practice Areas

- Product Liability
- Construction Law
- Class Actions
- Commercial Litigation

Education

- University of Pennsylvania Law School, J.D., 1987
- Widener University, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1983

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court -- Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court -- Middle District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court -- New Jersey
- U.S. Supreme Court

Affiliations

- American Bar Association
- Barristers Association of Philadelphia
- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Philadelphia Bar Association
- Co-Chair of the Federal Courts Committee, Philadelphia Bar Association

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corporation were also clients of the law firm. The alleged damages were \$4.3 million. Despite the testimony of Plaintiffs and their expert, our client was awarded a non-suit and a complete win.

Outside general counsel for a mid-sized health system and advises in the areas of litigation, labor and employment, regulatory, contracts, internal investigations and corporate governance

Served as outside general counsel for a national debt collection firm which had contracts with municipal governments, utilities, and the U.S. Department of Education and provided advice in the areas of litigation, regulation, real estate, government contracts, and business financing.

Won a \$1.3 million jury verdict for The City of Philadelphia in connection with a fire at the Fairmount Waterworks Engine House, which was built in 1815 and was our nation's first municipal waterworks.

Won a \$777,000 jury verdict for The City of Philadelphia in connection with the faulty installation of a sprinkler system in Philadelphia City Hall, a building which was completed in 1901 and is still the world's tallest masonry building.

Represented a gas utility in a gas explosion incident.

Assisted the manufacturer of a well-known vitamin supplement with the resolution of consumer protection claims in the states of Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Won a binding arbitration for an explosion demolition company in a serious construction site injury. Also recovered more than \$80,000 in attorney's fees for the client.

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania verdict in 2013 in favor of national workers' compensation insurer following a week-long jury trial, and against insured on counterclaim for bad faith. The jury found that the insured committed fraud in the application, entitling the insurer to recover from the insured its attorney's fees and amounts paid on a claim valued at more than \$4 million.

Represented a gas utility in multimillion dollar breach of product warranty litigation.

Represented a Canadian paper manufacturer in a catastrophic industrial accident involving a fatality and serious chemical burns.

Successfully argued an appeal in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit for a national builder of luxury homes.

Represented an international insurance company in multimillion dollar railroad worker occupational disease insurance coverage disputes.

Represented a Portuguese machine manufacturer in industrial accidents.

Defended a mid-sized, regional law firm and one of its senior corporate partners in a legal malpractice case brought in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. The case involved an underlying business transaction that went bad. Our law firm clients had represented a closely held corporation whose stock was sold to a publicly traded company. When the sellers failed to get paid in full for their stock, they sued the law firm, alleging that the law firm represented them individually and should have done more to protect them from the deal going bad. After more than a week of jury trial (including expert testimony on behalf of the plaintiff), the Court granted our motion for nonsuit at the close of plaintiffs' case.

Represented former School Superintendent Dr. David Noyes against his former school district in a claim of breach of contract involving an elementary school building plan on a property previously used as a

dump and burn site. Noyes stood accused of withholding that crucial information before the land's purchase, but under cross examination the Cozen team proved that he had duly informed the district's board about the history of the property, despite their claims to the contrary. Noyes, a respected long-term educator, was vindicated of all wrongdoing.

Represented manufacturers in mass tort litigation and acted as trial counsel in numerous jury trials.

Represented a nonprofit provider of health and social services in connection with a term loan agreement secured by the borrower's real and personal property.

Represented a gas utility in a high exposure contract dispute related to the use of a 10,000-mile interstate transmission pipeline system.

Serve as senior trial counsel for complex matters for Caesars Entertainment Company.

Represented an international manufacturer of food packing products in a commercial dispute with a national distributor.