



## Daniel F. Sullivan

Partner

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Daniel F. Sullivan is a trial lawyer with over 35 years of experience representing clients in complex commercial disputes, with an emphasis on insurance coverage and extra-contractual claims litigation. He has represented clients in state and federal courts in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas, and appeals to the United States Courts of Appeals for the First, Second, and Fourth Circuits, the Rhode Island Supreme Court and the Appellate and Supreme Courts of Connecticut. Dan has substantial trial and arbitration experience, having tried more than 30 matters to verdict, final judgment, or final arbitration decision.

### **Insurance Coverage + Bad Faith Litigation**

Dan's work representing insurance companies in complex property insurance coverage litigation includes serving as counsel for insurers in significant cases arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, Hurricane Ike, Hurricane Katrina, and the September 11 terrorist attacks. He has also litigated cases involving losses to residences and businesses arising from catastrophic fires and explosions, mold contamination, defective workmanship, and construction defects. He has significant experience in matters involving complex business interruption claims and associated accounting issues, all forms of appraisal and reference matters, and defending bad faith and unfair trade practices claims. In addition, he has litigated substantial cases arising under liability, marine, boiler and machinery, and builders' risk policies.

Dan's experience includes coordinating a major insurer's investigation, coverage analysis and litigation regarding claims for damages associated with Chinese-made drywall; representation of a commercial property insurer in a case involving a \$100 million claim by a publicly traded company for claimed losses arising from an arson fire; and representation of an insurance carrier in coverage litigation initiated by a major Roman Catholic archdiocese seeking coverage for a multimillion-dollar settlement with alleged victims of clergy sexual abuse.

### **Business Litigation**

Dan has also represented other businesses in a broad spectrum of commercial litigation. He was lead litigation and trial counsel for an international pharmaceutical company in its initial response to, investigation of, and litigation arising from an explosion that resulted in serious personal injuries and significant property damage. Dan has represented financial institutions in challenges to the validity of mortgages and the Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems (MERS). Most recently, he assisted in the successful defense of national actuarial firms in malpractice cases involving claims asserted by a municipal pension system and by participants of a hospital system pension plan. His other case experience includes the trial and appeal of dissolution and shareholder derivative actions which established the scope of the business judgment rule in the state of Connecticut and a murder case that was a case study on the issue of time of death in Dr. Henry Lee's book *Cracking Cases: The Science of Solving Crime*.

For ten years, Dan was a member of the adjunct faculty at the University of Connecticut School of Law, where he developed and taught a graduate-level course in property insurance law. He frequently speaks on insurance and litigation-related issues

to bar and industry organizations and provides in-house training sessions to insurance company personnel on coverage issues and trial tactics. Dan previously served as co-chair of our firm's Litigation section and chair of our firm's Insurance + Reinsurance practice group and was a founding member and the original partner-in-charge of our firm's Providence office.

Dan was ranked in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* in the state of Connecticut in the area of Insurance for 2024 and has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of Insurance Law since 2006.

## Services

- Insurance + Reinsurance
- Extracontractual Liability Litigation
- Fire + Explosion
- Liability Coverage
- Property Insurance Coverage Litigation
- Reinsurance + Excess Insurance
- Litigation

## Education

- The George Washington University Law School (Juris Doctor, *with high honors*)
  - Order of the Coif
- The George Washington University (Bachelors, *with distinction*)
  - B.A., History
  - Phi Beta Kappa

## Admissions

- Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- State of Connecticut
- State of Rhode Island
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 1st Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut
- U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, District of Rhode Island

## Recognitions

Received a Band 1 ranking in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* in the State of Connecticut in the area of Insurance for 2024 and 2025

Selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the area of Insurance Law since 2006

Selected to the Connecticut Super Lawyers list from 2007 to 2020

## **Leadership + Memberships**

### **University of Connecticut School of Law**

Insurance Law Center, Adjunct Faculty (1998 - 2008)

### **American Bar Association**

Section of Litigation

Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section, Past Vice Chair of Property Insurance Law Committee

### **Connecticut Bar Association**

Insurance Law Section

Litigation Section

### **Rhode Island Bar Association**

Federal Court Bench and Bar Committee

Superior Court Bench and Bar Committee

### **Rhode Island Bar Foundation**

Fellow