



## Rhonda J. Tobin

Partner

[rtobin@rc.com](mailto:rtobin@rc.com)

Hartford — 860.275.8327

New York

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Rhonda J. Tobin is the immediate past Managing Partner of our firm and the chair of the firm's lateral Growth Committee. She is a highly regarded trial lawyer with significant experience in state and federal courts. Her practice focuses on representing insurance companies in complex insurance coverage litigation, arbitration, and mediation including claims seeking extracontractual remedies. Rhonda was a member of Robinson+Cole's Managing Committee from 2009 to 2026 and co-chaired our firm's 100-attorney Litigation Section from 2007 to 2021.

In 2025, Rhonda was appointed by Governor Ned Lamont as the Chair of the Connecticut Judicial Review Council, which is responsible for investigating complaints alleging misconduct by state judges, family support magistrates and workers' compensation commissioners.

### Insurance Coverage Litigation

Rhonda's insurance coverage practice includes the litigation and arbitration of a broad range of coverage issues under commercial general liability, commercial property, directors' and officers' liability, professional liability, and excess and surplus lines policies. She has substantial experience in commercial property claims-related litigation, including high profile insurance coverage litigation arising out of the September 11 catastrophe. She has significant coverage litigation and trial experience in connection with sexual abuse claims against religious institutions and schools, as well as coverage disputes involving claims arising out of the #MeToo Movement and the COVID-19 pandemic. Rhonda's reinsurance experience includes the arbitration and litigation of reinsurance disputes related to property and casualty and workers' compensation reinsurance.

### Extracontractual Litigation

Rhonda also has significant experience advising clients about potential extracontractual exposure and defending cases alleging bad faith and unfair claim handling practices through trial. She is regularly retained to monitor claims to provide input on good faith claim-handling and settlement practices. She regularly trains and counsels her clients on good faith claim investigation and settlement practices and is a frequent speaker at insurance industry programs on both coverage and claim handling.

She is a Fellow in the highly-selective American College of Coverage Counsel. She was recognized by the National Law Journal as an Insurance Law Trailblazer in its inaugural listing in 2021. In addition, Rhonda was recognized in 2020 by *Business Insurance* as one of its 30 "Women to Watch" in North America, and by the *Hartford Business Journal* as one of its 15 "Women in Business" honorees. She has been listed as one of the Top 250 Women Litigators in the United States and a Local Litigation Star by Benchmark Litigation since 2014, included in *Best Lawyers in America* since 2022 and named to the Connecticut *Super Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> list from 2017 to 2024. She has been listed in the *Hartford Business Journal's* 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2022 Power Players section, highlighting the region's 50 most influential leaders.

Rhonda was selected for recognition as the "Regional Managing Partner of the Year" in Law.com's 2025 New England Legal Awards. She was also recognized in the "Managing Partner of the Year" category as part of *Corporate Counsel's* 2022

Women, Influence and Power in Law (WIPL) Awards.

## Services

- Insurance + Reinsurance
- Professional Liability Insurance
- Extracontractual Liability Litigation
- Liability Coverage
- Property Insurance Coverage Litigation
- Reinsurance + Excess Insurance
- Litigation

## Education

- Duke University School of Law (Juris Doctor, *with honors*)
- Duke University (Bachelors, *cum laude*)
  - B.A. Economics and Spanish

## Admissions

- State of Connecticut
- State of New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York

## Leadership + Memberships

### **Connecticut Judicial Review Council**

Chair (February 2025 - present)

### **United States Law Firm Group**

Trustee and President

Chair of Litigation Committee (2007 - 2016)

### **American College of Coverage Counsel**

Fellow

Former Co-Chair of CGL/Excess Liability Insurance Committee

Former Co-Chair of ADR Committee

### **Hartford Stage Company**

Board of Directors (2017 - Present)

Executive Committee (2018 - 2025)

Co-chair, Governance and Nominating Committee (2018 - 2025)

### **Junior Achievement of Southwest New England**

Vice Chair, Business Hall of Fame Committee (2024 - 2026)

### **MetroHartford Alliance**

Board of Directors

**Connecticut Bar Association**

Insurance Law Section

Litigation Section

**American Bar Foundation**

Fellow

**Boys and Girls Clubs of Hartford**

Simsbury Advisory Committee

**Connecticut Bar Foundation**

James W. Cooper Fellow

History of Connecticut Women in the Legal Profession Project

**International Women's Forum of Connecticut**

Member

**New York State Bar Association**

**American Bar Association**

Section of Litigation, Professional Liability Section newsletter *Professional Liability Update*, New England Editor (1998 - 1999)

Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section, Vice Chair of Professionals' Officers' and Directors' Liability Committee (2001 - 2010)

**Professional Liability Underwriting Society**

Hartford Chapter Steering Committee (2012 - 2017)

**University of Connecticut School of Law**

Adjunct Professor (2007 - 2009)

**Connecticut Insurance and Financial Services Cluster**

**Defense Research Institute**

Member 1992 - present

**Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM)**

Member of Extra Contractual Committee

**Recognitions**

Regional Managing Partner of the Year as part of Law.com's 2025 New England Legal Awards

Urban League of Greater Hartford's 2025 Business Excellence Award Honoree

Listed in the Hartford Business Journal's 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2022 Power Players section, highlighting the region's 50 most influential leaders

Selected by The National Law Journal as a 2021 Insurance Law Trailblazer

Business Insurance 2020 "Women to Watch" Honoree

Hartford Business Journal 2020 "Women in Business" Honoree

Listed as one of the Top 250 Women Litigators in the United States by Benchmark Litigation since 2014

Listed in Benchmark Litigation as a Local Litigation Star for Connecticut in the areas of Insurance and Professional Liability since 2014

Selected by her peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® in the area of Appellate Practice for 2022 and in the area of Insurance Law for 2025, 2024 and 2023

Selected for recognition in the "Managing Partner of the Year" category as part of Corporate Counsel's 2022 Women, Influence and Power in Law (WIPL) Awards

Connecticut Law Tribune, 2010, recognized in Women in the Law: High Achievers yearbook

Selected to the Connecticut Super Lawyers list in 2007 and from 2017 to 2025

Robinson+Cole Mentor of the Year Award recipient, 2005