



JOHN A. LIVINGOOD, JR.

Partner

📍 Philadelphia, PA

📞 (215) 931-5868

📱 (215) 738-0879

✉️ jlivingood@margolisedelstein.com

Areas of Practice:

Automobile & Trucking | Construction Law | General Liability |
Insurance Consulting | Products Liability

BIOGRAPHY

For over 30 years, partner John Livingood has defended insured and self-insured entities in casualty litigation. He represents individuals and local, regional, and national corporations in complex, high-exposure litigation throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

John has extensive major jury and non-jury trial experience in the Philadelphia region, having tried over 50 matters to verdict. He regularly serves as excess counsel for carriers, assuming responsibility for and trying cases anywhere from three months to 48 hours before trial. He leads a team of experienced, efficient and tenacious litigators. He leverages the firm's industry-leading technology to deliver innovative, data-driven litigation solutions tailored to client needs.

John has extensive experience managing and coordinating large-scale legal projects, including overseeing multi-attorney litigation teams and implementing comprehensive claims review programs. In the In re: Market East litigation, he served as primary liaison defense counsel, coordinating briefing and argument across multiple defense firms for hundreds of pretrial motions, as well as organizing damages defenses, expert strategy, and trial preparation.

He also leads the firm's Claims File Review & Resolution Consulting service, which assists insurance carriers, including global insurers and corporations, in efficiently evaluating and resolving high volumes of claims. Drawing on his deep background in insurance defense, John oversees detailed file reviews and provides strategic recommendations on claim viability, resolution pathways, and cost projections. His team's work helps clients manage reserves, reduce litigation exposure, and ensure consistency and compliance in claims handling, delivering the legal insight necessary to drive informed, cost-effective outcomes across both routine and complex matters.

EDUCATION

Widener University School of Law (J.D.)

Bucknell University (B.A.)

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania

New Jersey

U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania

U.S. District Court, Middle District of Pennsylvania

U.S. District Court, New Jersey

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Defense Research Institute

Pennsylvania Defense Institute

Philadelphia Association of Defense Counsel

HONORS & AWARDS

AV Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Rated

Selected for Inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America in the area of Personal Injury Litigation - Defendants since 2026

Pennsylvania Super Lawyers

Delaware Journal of Corporate Law, articles editor

Past President — Philadelphia Association of Defense Counsel

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

In re: Market Street Building Collapse — Primary insurance defense counsel for collapsed building owner in the longest jury trial in Philadelphia history.

Schulze v. Sautter Crane— Obtained complete recovery of all defense costs in a bench trial on enforcement of a contractual indemnity clause.

Turner v. Bowman — Defense verdict in Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas for driver of a disabled vehicle struck by a school bus on a major highway.

Smith v. Marchetti — Defense verdict in motor vehicle liability case where the matter was transferred to Mr. Livingood just 72 hours before jury selection.

Seidel v. White's Harley Davidson — Summary judgment for a motorcycle dealership in a products liability action based on plaintiff's spoliation of evidence.

Elliott Lewis Corporation v. 101 Walnut — Obtained a near full recovery of all amounts owed to a subcontractor from an owner and lender on a distressed condominium project through use of mechanic's liens and litigation.

Deon v. Bergeys — Summary judgment for a retread tire manufacturer in a personal injury action, arguing that the plaintiff could not prove a defect in the product.

Depew v. Sautter Crane — Defense verdict for a crane owner and operator in a significant personal injury action brought by an injured worker.

Quinn v. Carroll Valley Resort — Defended a local resort against a significant dram shop action, with no recovery by plaintiff.

Smith v. Elliott Lewis Corp. — Defense verdict in Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas in favor of jet bridge maintenance company in fall down claim by an airline employee.

Chizkov v. Moore — Defense verdict in Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas for motor vehicle operator who struck plaintiff, an adult bicyclist, resulting in multiple cervical fractures and surgery.

Thomas v. Elliott Lewis — Obtained complete recovery of all defense and settlement costs in a bench trial on enforcement of a contractual indemnity clause.

ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS

U.S. Supreme Court Expands Broker Exposure in Trucking Cases

Federal Court Rules Future Medical Expenses Recoverable Under Pennsylvania's MVFRL

PA Superior Court Reverses Course to Allow Liability Coverage and UIM Coverage Under the Same Policy

Pennsylvania Superior Court Affirms Stacked UIM Coverage for Corporate Owner as a Class One Insured Under Commercial Auto Policy

Important Changes to PA Dangerous Dog Law - Criminal & Civil Liability

PA Supreme Court Clarifies Availability of Economic Damages For Uninsured Vehicle Owners

PA Superior Court: No 2nd Chance To Get Your Mechanic's Lien Right

Mechanic's Liens and Strong Contracts Are Still The Best Protection For Subcontractors On Distressed Projects

Another New PaMVFRL Opinion! Tortfeasor's Excess Coverage May Be Set Off Against UIM Recovery

Superior Court Reiterates - No Prejudgment Interest on Mechanic's Liens in Pennsylvania

No Double Recovery of Health and Disability Benefits in UM/UIM

Superior Court: No Bad Faith in UIM Value Dispute

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Handling UTPCPL Claims" October 2023

PBI - Distracted Driving

PBI - Fair Share Act

NEWS & CASE RESULTS

10 Attorneys Named to the 2026 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers & Rising Stars Lists

Philadelphia Trial Court Dismisses High Exposure \$60M Product Recall Action on Jurisdictional Grounds

11 Margolis Edelstein Attorneys Named to the 2026 Best Lawyers and Ones to Watch Lists

12 Attorneys Named to the 2025 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers & Rising Stars Lists

Congratulations to Our 2024 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers & Rising Stars

Congratulations to the Margolis Edelstein 2021 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars!