

Joanna K. Budde

Shareholder

Joanna has been a full-time litigator for over 30 years. During this time, she has been involved in litigating a variety of matters in the courts and administrative agencies of Pennsylvania. She is a member of a number of professional organizations, including the Pennsylvania Defense Institute.

Practice Areas

- [Litigation](#)

Education

- Duquesne University School of Law, J.D.; *Duquesne Law Review*, Member; *Duquesne Law Review*, Associate Recent Decisions Editor
- Rutgers University, B.A.

Admissions and Ratings

Admissions

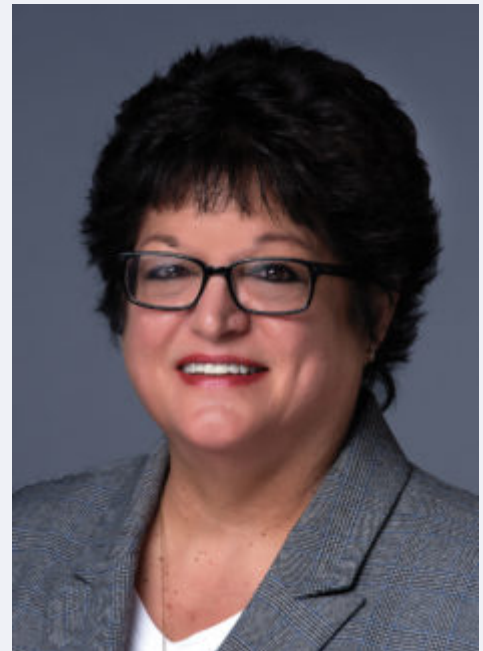
- Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey

Ratings

- [AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rated](#)

Representative Experience

- Obtained favorable defense verdict in motor vehicle personal injury trial, for which plaintiff damages were originally calculated at \$1.2 million
- Obtained motion for summary judgment on the eve of trial in a motor vehicle case in which the plaintiff was bound by the limited tort option and the medical evidence showed that he had a pre-existing low back injury
- Obtained favorable verdict in jury trial in a motor vehicle case in which the defendant was found



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negligent, but the negligence was not a factual cause of plaintiff's alleged injuries

- Obtained favorable ruling in compulsory arbitration in a motor vehicle case in which the plaintiff was bound by the limited tort option and the medical evidence showed that he had a pre-existing neck injury
- Obtained favorable ruling in compulsory arbitration in a motor vehicle case in which the plaintiff was bound by the limited tort option and required two surgeries for a shoulder injury
- Obtained favorable verdict in jury trial in a motor vehicle case in which the plaintiff claimed she suffered facial scarring from the accident and the defendant was found not negligent
- Argued before PA Supreme Court regarding issues related to insurance/limited tort
- Obtained numerous summary judgments on behalf of clients regarding limited tort issues and Dead Man's Act
- Assisted clients in obtaining guardianship of elderly or disabled individuals in order to protect their person and estate
- Successfully defended an automobile insurance company against a \$1.8 million accident case that resulted in a verdict of only \$1,000
- Obtained numerous defense verdicts in automobile accident cases in Erie, Crawford, Warren and McKean Counties.

Honors

- AV Preeminent - Top Rated Lawyer in Insurance Law, 2013

Community and Professional Service

Community and Professional Service

- Northwestern Legal Services, *Board Member*
- Mercy Center for the Arts, *Board Member*
- Cambridge Springs High School Mock Trial Team, *Advisor 2010-2016*
- First United Methodist Church of Cambridge Springs, *Trustee/Board Member, 2012-2016*

Professional Affiliations

- Erie County Bar Association, *Civil Litigation Section, Chair (2018) and former Vice Chair (2017)*
- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Defense Institute

Presentations

Speaking Engagements

- Firm's Litigation & Workers' Compensation Seminar