



Joseph F. Rich

Member

Miami

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Practice Areas

- Subrogation & Recovery
- Legal Profession Services

Industry Sectors

- Insurance

Education

- Villanova University School of Law, J.D., 2003
- Le Moyne College, B.A., *summa cum laude*, 2000

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Florida
- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania
- U.S. Dist. Ct. Puerto Rico

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court -- District of Columbia
- U.S. District Court -- Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court -- Northern District of Florida
- U.S. District Court -- Southern District of Florida
- U.S. District Court -- New Jersey
- U.S. District Court -- Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court -- Middle District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court -- Puerto Rico

Affiliations

- Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Court and County Court Mediator
- Board of Directors, National Association of Subrogation Professionals (NASP)
- Member, Dade County Bar Association
- Former Member, Florida Bar Unlicensed Practice of Law Committee "A", 11th Judicial Circuit for Miami-Dade County

Clerkships

Honorable John A. Terry, U.S. District Court -- District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Joe has spent his entire career as a practicing attorney at Cozen O'Connor, where he serves as chair, technology & innovation for the Subrogation & Recovery Department. In this position, Joe assists with implementation of new technologies, applications, and workflows for the firm's Subrogation & Recovery Department. He also co-hosts the Subrogation & Recovery Department's podcast, "Subro on the Go," in which he and others spotlight trending issues, new cases impacting the subrogation industry, and overall best practices. Joe is also co-chair of the department's Tech Toys & Products Task Force.

Joe has been helping insurance clients make recoveries for 20 years, employing a mix of hard work, dedication, and creativity to achieve the best possible result. He has represented property insurers in a wide variety of subrogation matters arising out of fires, water releases, product failures, mechanical system failures, roofing failures, and construction defects.

Joe assists clients by developing creative pre-suit methods to achieve recoveries, as well as cost-effective and targeted strategies for successful litigation, mediation, and arbitration of claims. He has extensive experience as lead counsel in the full gamut of recovery matters, from significant construction defect cases involving improper roofing and re-roofing projects for condominiums and commercial buildings, to product liability cases against manufacturers of lithium batteries, consumer electronics, and a variety of plumbing components and related systems. In addition to his experience practicing within the contiguous United States, Joe has litigated subrogation matters and general litigation matters in federal court in Puerto Rico. He is also a Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Court and County Court mediator.

Promoting the benefits of and advancing the education and policy interests of the subrogation industry are important to Joe. He is actively involved in the National Association of Subrogation Professionals (NASP), including currently serving as treasurer on the Executive Committee of NASP's board of directors. He has presented at NASP's Annual Conferences since 2012 and co-chaired NASP's 2018 Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida. Joe earned his Certified Subrogation Recovery Professional (CSRFP) designation through NASP in 2019. Through these activities, Joe has developed and strengthened relationships with colleagues and service providers in the subrogation industry.

Experience

Obtained a \$1.74 million judgment (plus pre- and post-judgment interest) on behalf of the insurer of a crane operating company in a negligent services case against the crane manufacturer's wholly owned subsidiary, which acted as a services and training company. The case arose after a 600-ton mobile crane collapsed in on itself after the insured's employees adjusted an incorrect locking pin on the crane during its set-up. We claimed the pin was adjusted and the crane collapsed because the crane manufacturer's wholly owned subsidiary failed to provide the proper training and a product bulletin. After two years of litigation, the case culminated in a six-day trial finding the manufacturer's wholly owned subsidiary 100 percent negligent. The case involved testimony from a number of employees from all parties, crane experts, human factors experts, and damage experts. The case was appealed by the defendant to the United States Court of Appeals, which certified the case to the Florida Supreme Court.

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