



Tony Zelle has represented insurance and business clients in for 30 years. Representing his clients as both plaintiffs and defendants, he has tried more than 50 cases and has argued more than 20 appeals in the First Circuit, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, the Rhode Island Supreme Court and intermediate courts of appeal. Over the past 15 years, he has tried and handled the appeals of the leading bad faith cases in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

He founded Zelle, McDonough & Cohen in 2005 to provide clients with the legal resources needed to succeed in difficult matters when stakes are high, without subjecting them to the impositions endemic to large hierarchic law firms. He has been recognized by *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* for results deemed annually as "Top Ten Most Important Defense Verdicts" and for "Top Ten Jury verdicts."

Tony Zelle has developed a national reputation representing insurance companies in coverage and bad faith claims. Locally, he represented insurers involved in two of the most publicized legal and historical matters in Boston: the Archdiocese of Boston's sex abuse scandal and the "Big Dig" construction fiasco.

In his commercial litigation practice, his highlights include representing victims of investment fraud, including Ponzi schemes, against banks, security brokers and other professionals who aided and abetted the defalcators. He led teams of attorneys that enabled clients to recover more than \$200,000,000 in scams by notorious financial criminals Daniel Carpenter and Edward Okun. In another fraud case, his successful representation of an insurer led to the demise of a large law firm that had engaged in a widespread workers compensation claim scheme.

After he was graduated from Boston College Law School, Tony began practicing with Robins Zelle Larson & Kaplan, where he became involved in the then nascent environmental coverage and toxic torts arenas. As novel insurance coverage issues were raised and the litigation became increasingly more complicated, he had the opportunity to aid the insurance defense bar in shaping the law. He was personally involved in many of the first cases addressing insurance coverage for environmental contamination and had the opportunity to establish the law through appeals he handled in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.

In addition to insurance coverage litigation, in his formative first decade of practice, Tony gained substantial trial experience representing plaintiffs in subrogation matters and representing defendants in product liability, premises liability and general negligence claims.

Tony, and his firm, are AV rated by Martindale Hubbell. He has been recognized as a Super Lawyer by the Thompson Reuters since the peer reviewed evaluation program began. From 2013 to 2016, he served as a director on the board of the Defense Research Institute, the nation's largest association of defense lawyers, and previously chaired DRI's Insurance Law Committee. For the past 12 years, he has been the editor-in-chief of *DRI's Insurance Bad Faith: Compendium of the Law of the United States, its Territories and Canada*. He is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, the First, Second and Third Circuit Federal Circuit Courts of Appeal, the Federal District Courts of Massachusetts, Connecticut and California, and the State Bars of Massachusetts and Minnesota.