

JAMES H. COLE

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY DEPARTMENT
CO-CHAIR, INSURANCE SERVICES PRACTICE GROUP
CHAIR, PROPERTY LITIGATION PRACTICE GROUP
CO-CHAIR, FRAUD/SPECIAL INVESTIGATION PRACTICE GROUP
SHAREHOLDER



ADMISSIONS

New Jersey, 1999
Pennsylvania, 1999

HONORS & AWARDS

AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale-Hubbell®

Best Lawyers in America®,
Insurance Law 2024

National Insurance Crime Bureau,
Certificate of Appreciation, 2010

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Claims & Litigation Management
Alliance

CLM Claims College, School of
Property, Instructor

Insurance Law Global - Property &
Casualty Committee, 2020-Present

International Association of Special
Investigation Units (IASIU)

Pennsylvania Bar Association

Philadelphia Bar Association

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Claims Professional in
Property Claims. CLM

Associate in Claims (AIC), The
Insurance Institute of America

Litigation Management Institute,
Graduate 2014 (CLMP)

AREAS OF PRACTICE

COVID-19 Task Force
Insurance Services – Coverage and Bad
Faith Litigation
Property Litigation
Fraud/Special Investigation
Premises and Retail Liability
Environmental & Toxic Tort Litigation

OVERVIEW

James focuses his practice on representing insurance companies whether that be in pre-litigation consultation or the defense of first party or bad faith lawsuits. James has had a particular interest in Special Investigative Unit and Property Damage claims, including arson, burglaries, public adjuster represented claims, mold/ pollution and automobile thefts. Within his areas of practice, he is experienced in the bad faith and coverage issues inherent in first party/SIU investigations and litigation. Throughout his career, James has assisted with hundreds of SIU investigations, coverage consultations and litigated hundreds of first party lawsuits; and consulted on hundreds of property coverage issues.

James is frequently asked by clients and industry organizations to lecture on a variety of topics concerning property damage, insurance fraud and bad faith. For the past five years, he has been a featured speaker at the annual Pennsylvania Insurance Fraud conferences, and he has spoken several times at PLRB conferences, among others. An active member of the Claims & Litigation Management Alliance (CLM), James sits on the Executive Council for the CLM's Claims College, School of Property, where he has helped to develop curriculum surrounding good faith claims handling and insurance coverage topics.

James is a 1990 graduate of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Immediately following graduation, he worked as a claims representative with a large insurance carrier, where for eight years he was involved in the investigation and resolution of property and casualty claims. In 1995, he entered Temple University School of Law while continuing to work full time. James graduated from Temple University in 1999 with a degree of juris doctor. Thereafter, he joined Marshall Dennehey. His firsthand property background, insurance industry knowledge and familiarity with property policies allows him to effectively, efficiently and practically counsel clients on Property and SIU issues, and when necessary provide a vigorous and common sense defense tailored to the needs of a particular carrier.

CONTACT INFO

(215) 575-2635
jhcole@mdwcg.com

2000 Market Street, Suite 2300
Philadelphia, PA 19103