

Jonathan S. Zelig

Partner

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Overview

Jonathan Zelig represents domestic and international insurers in complex litigation and arbitration across the United States, handling some of the industry's most significant and emerging coverage issues. Known for securing favorable outcomes in both legacy exposures and cutting-edge risks, Jonathan has developed a reputation as a rising leader in the national insurance bar. Clients and peers highlight Jonathan's "exceptional command of emerging coverage issues" and his "steady hand in both trial and arbitration forums," while praising his "practical and realistic advice."

Jonathan has advised insurers on a wide range of high-stakes disputes. His experience includes mass tort and catastrophic loss matters such as asbestos, opioid, and sexual molestation coverage claims. He is also at the forefront of emerging risks, including coverage disputes arising from COVID-19, e-cigarettes, cyberattacks, media liability, and innovative financial transactions. In addition, Jonathan regularly counsels clients on professional, executive, and extracontractual liability, including directors and officers (D&O) claims, intellectual property disputes, healthcare compliance, professional liability, and bad faith allegations. Jonathan also has a substantial track record of success in late notice, claims-made, and claim-relatedness coverage disputes.

Jonathan is a past president of the Massachusetts Insurance and Reinsurance Bar Association, where he is now a member of the Board of Directors. He also serves on the Boston Bar Association's Financial Services Steering Committee. Jonathan has been included in *Chambers* USA in the Insurance Massachusetts category since 2025. He is also listed in The Best Lawyers in America® (2025–2026) for Insurance Law.

Firm Leadership

- Executive Board Member
- Office Managing Partner, Boston

Experience

No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the highest court of any state. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

Practices & Industries

Insurance & Reinsurance

Insurance and Reinsurance Disputes

Litigation

Represented liability insurer in a Second Circuit appeal involving more than $3.3 million in defense costs, securing vacatur of summary judgment for the insured and a ruling that a pre-suit demand letter constituted a claim under the policy. *Match Group, LLC v. Beazley Underwriting Ltd.*

Represented insurer in the first Washington Wage Transparency Law coverage case to reach a final decision on the merits, securing dismissal without leave to amend based on the absence of covered discrimination. *Potbelly Corp. v. Beazley Insurance Co., Inc.*

Represented excess insurer in a Washington professional liability coverage dispute involving a $5.9 million underlying verdict, securing summary judgment that the therapist was not an insured and that the sexual misconduct exclusion independently barred coverage. *Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London v. Compass Health, et al.*

Represented excess technology errors and omissions insurers in California coverage litigation arising from allegedly defective cable television products, securing summary adjudication confirming the insurers' interpretation of a policy exclusion. *Cisco Systems, Inc. v. Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London*

Represented insurers in a Louisiana direct action, securing summary judgment that no coverage existed under claims-made-and-reported liability policies because the underlying claim was made and reported during different policy periods. *Integra Insurance Services, LLC et al. v. Babcock et al.*

Represented excess E&O insurer in coverage litigation with multinational tech company regarding settlements of defective product claims

Represented primary specialty insurer in coverage litigation regarding sexual abuse of a minor at a secondary school

Represented cyber insurer in coverage litigation regarding claim for business email compromise

Represented primary general liability carrier in coverage dispute concerning false advertising claims against a consumer goods producer

Represented excess D&O carrier in coverage litigation with multinational corporation regarding breach of fiduciary duty claims

Represented cedent mutual insurance company in arbitration seeking multimillion-dollar recovery from its reinsurer in connection with winter storm-related property damage

Represented ceding insurer in litigation seeking $250 million from its reinsurers in connection with a $1 billion underlying asbestos settlement

Represented cedent mutual insurance company in a series of state and federal lawsuits seeking recovery from its reinsurers of loss expense paid above the reinsurance accepted amount in connection with underlying asbestos litigation

Represented a mutual insurance company on appeal from a decision and order declaring coverage of a school district's multimillion-dollar settlement of intentional discrimination claims

Education and Credentials

Education

Yale Law School, J.D., 2011, *Yale Journal on Regulation*, Editor-in-Chief

Pomona College, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 2008

Admissions

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State of New York

U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts

U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York

U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York

U.S. District Court, Western District of New York

Affiliations

Massachusetts Insurance and Reinsurance Bar Association (MIReBA), President

Boston Bar Association

New York State Bar Association

Recognition and Community

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Recognitions

Selected to Boston Magazine's Top Lawyers List, Insurance, 2025

Chosen for inclusion in the *Chambers USA Legal Directory* (Chambers & Partners), of recognized practitioners for Insurance in Massachusetts, 2025-2026

Chosen for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* (Woodward/White, Inc) for Insurance Law, 2025-2027

Selected to the list of Massachusetts *Super Lawyers*® Rising Stars, Business Litigation, 2014-2016, 2018-2022

Semifinalist, Yale Law School Morris Tyler Moot Court of Appeals, 2009

Pomona College Morton O. Beckner Prize for Special Talent in Philosophy, 2008

Phi Beta Kappa, 2008

News

Day Pitney Secures Summary Judgment for Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London in Washington Professional Liability Coverage Dispute
September 8, 2026

Michael Byrne Named Managing Partner of Day Pitney
Day Pitney Press Release, April 7, 2026

Boston Magazine's Top Lawyers of 2025
Boston Magazine , November 25, 2025

Day Pitney Secures Summary Judgment Win for Clients in Louisiana Direct Action
August 14, 2023

Jonathan Zelig Elected President of Massachusetts Insurance and Reinsurance Bar Association
May 24, 2022

Day Pitney's Representation of CBF and Brazilian Iron Companies Covered by Law360
July 17, 2019

Day Pitney Congratulates Our New Partners
January 31, 2019

Jonathan S. Zelig
January 2, 2019

Day Pitney Promotes Six New Partners
January 2, 2019

Day Pitney Preserves Favorable Ruling For Client As Supreme Court Denies Writ of Certiorari
December 11, 2017

In The Media

"Directors & Officers (D&O) Insurance Fundamentals: Navigating Coverage, Claims, and Transactional Challenges," Boston Bar Association
May 12, 2025

Exposures and Opportunities, Fall Symposium, Massachusetts Insurance and Reinsurance Bar Association
October 15, 2020

Billionaire Fights Waiving Of Privilege In $48M Award Dispute
Law360, July 30, 2019