

John Zen Jackson

OF COUNSEL

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A trial is a lot like baseball. As the legendary Yogi Berra put it, 90 percent is mental, the other half is physical. Trials of healthcare issues often involve technically difficult and emotionally complex information in the attempt to inform and persuade, all as part of the search for the truth of a case. And truth matters, as does the appearance of truthfulness.

John's healthcare practice emphasizes litigated matters in judicial and administrative forums, including professional liability claims, licensure and credentialing issues with administrative agencies and health care entities, reimbursement and insurance fraud disputes. He is Certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Civil Trial Attorney and has extensive experience in trying jury cases to a verdict.

In addition to trying numerous individual medical liability cases for a variety of healthcare providers, John was lead defense counsel for a group of New Jersey plastic surgeons sued in connection with the silicone gel breast implant litigation, and has been involved in a number of high-profile mass tort litigation programs for medical devices or healthcare products, including pedicle screws, diet drugs, and Rezulin.

Beyond trial advocacy, John is an experienced appellate litigator. He served as defense counsel in the New Jersey Supreme Court cases limiting the liability of physicians for suspected exposure to the HIV-virus, and for alleged lack of informed consent regarding abortion procedures. John has served as *amicus* counsel for the Medical Society of New Jersey, the American Medical Association, and the New Jersey Hospital Association in appellate matters before the New Jersey Supreme Court

Departments

Healthcare
Litigation

Education

Seton Hall Law School, J.D.,
1975
Tufts University, B.A. 1972

Bar Admissions

New Jersey, 1975
New York, 2005
U.S. Supreme Court, 2007
U.S. Court of Appeals, Third
Circuit, 1987
U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C.
Circuit, 2016
U.S. District Court, District of
Columbia, 2015
U.S. District Court, District of
New Jersey, 1975
U.S. District Court, Southern
District of New York, 2008

Clerkships

Former Law Clerk to The Hon.
Richard J. Hughes, Chief
Justice of the New Jersey
Supreme Court (1975-1976)

John Zen Jackson (Cont.)

and Appellate Division. He has been involved in numerous reported opinions.

John has handled a variety of commercial litigation issues as well as the defense of qui tam actions under the Federal False Claims Act and insurance coverage and insurance fraud cases. He has represented clients in professional licensure and hospital privilege disputes before state administrative bodies and hospital credentialing committees as well as judicial review through the New Jersey Supreme Court. He has additional experience as a hearing officer for hospital privilege disputes.

John is the author of over 80 published articles in medical and legal publications on a broad range of healthcare, tort liability and trial technique topics. He has been a member of the Editorial Board of MDAdvisor, a peer-reviewed journal for the New Jersey medical community, since its inception in 2007.

Results may vary depending on your particular facts and legal circumstances.

HONORS & AWARDS

- American College of Trial Lawyers Fellow
- Recipient of the Trial Bar Award from the Trial Attorneys of New Jersey for his distinguished service in the cause of justice (2014)
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (a trademark of Woodward/White, Inc.) in the Commercial Litigation, Medical Malpractice Law - Defendants, and Litigation - Health Care practice areas (2009 - present)
- Selected by *Best Lawyers*® (a trademark of Woodward/White, Inc.) as Newark "Lawyer of the Year" in Medical Malpractice Law-Defendants (2021); as Newark "Lawyer of the Year" in Litigation-Health Care (2020, 2018); as Newark "Lawyer of the Year" in Medical Malpractice Law - Defendants (2019, 2015, 2012)
- Listed in *New Jersey Super Lawyers* (a Thomson Reuters business) in the Health Care, Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice: Defense, Administrative Law, and Business Litigation practice areas (2005-present); listed as one of *Super Lawyers*' Top 100 Attorneys in New Jersey (2010-2011)
- Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Rated AV® Preeminent (a trademark of Internet Brands, Inc.)

Please visit our Award Methodology page for a description of the standard or methodology on which these accolades are based. Attorney Advertising: No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

UNIQUELY NJ

- Appointed to the New Jersey Supreme Court District Ethics Committee for District VII (Mercer County), which is charged with investigating and prosecuting alleged violations of attorney ethics rules by members of the New Jersey Bar (2025-2029)

John Zen Jackson (Cont.)

- Trial Attorneys of New Jersey; President (1999)
- New Jersey State Bar Association; Health Law Section; Civil Trial Bar Section
- Medical History Society of New Jersey; Vice President
- New Jersey Supreme Court Board on Attorney Certification; Chair (2008-2011)
- New Jersey Supreme Court Civil Certification Committee; Chair (2008-2011); Member (1997-2011)
- New Jersey Supreme Court Board on Continuing Legal Education (Former Member)
- Penn Medicine Princeton Health; Biomedical Ethics Committee

MORE ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCE

- American College of Trial Lawyers; Legal Ethics and Professionalism Committee

PRESENTATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Panelist, The Karen Ann Quinlan Case: Its Legacy and New Jersey's Contributions to End-of-Life Jurisprudence Between 1975 and 2025

Sponsor: *New Jersey Annual Judicial College*, November 24, 2025

Co-Moderator, The Bioethical Principle of Justice and Inequities/Disparities in Connection with COVID-19 in New Jersey

Sponsor: *Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP, NJ Hospital Association, NJ Healthcare Financial Management Association, and Medical Society of NJ*, May 12, 2021

Co-Moderator, A Range of Perspectives on Advising and Implementing Decisions Involved with Advance Directives and POLST

Sponsor: *Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP, NJ Hospital Association, NJ Healthcare Financial Management Association, and Medical Society of NJ*, May 4, 2021

Panelist, The Legal Foundation for Advance Directives and POLST in Light of Bioethical Principles

Sponsor: *Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP, NJ Hospital Association, NJ Healthcare Financial Management Association, and Medical Society of NJ*, April 27, 2021

Presenter, Bioethical Issues and End-of-Life Options in New Jersey in the Time of COVID-19

Sponsor: *Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP in collaboration with the New Jersey Hospital Association and the Medical Society of New Jersey*, October 6, 2020

Speaker, Walt Whitman's Healing Presence: A Poet's Civil War

Sponsor: *Medical History Society of New Jersey*, August 26, 2020

PUBLICATIONS & ALERTS

Author, Does a Witness' Deference to Different Specialty Concerning Diagnosis Constitute Concession of Lack of Qualifications to Provide Causation Opinion in Malpractice Claim?

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, December 11, 2025

Author, New York Legislature Passes Medical Aid in Dying Bill Without a Residency Requirement

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, July 17, 2025

Author, Foreseeability in Psychiatric Malpractice Claims

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, March 17, 2025

Author, Remembering the New Jersey- Born Physician Who Became the First Black Lawyer Admitted to Practice before the Supreme Court of the United States

Garden State FOCUS, Spring 2025

Author, A New Standard of Care for Medical Liability?

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, March 7, 2025

Author, Criminalizing Reproductive Care and Abortion Services through Telehealth

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, February 14, 2025

Author, New Jersey Supreme Court Opinion Refines Affidavit of Merit Requirements for Malpractice Case Against Physician Certified in Multiple Specialties

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, January 31, 2025

Author, Hospital Policy for Universal Urine Drug Testing of Pregnant Women Comes Under Scrutiny for Alleged Violations of State Law Against Discrimination

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, October 10, 2024

Author, Constitutional Challenge to New Jersey Residency Requirement in Medical Aid in Dying Act Rejected

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, September 25, 2024

Author, Medical Aid in Dying and Medical Tourism in New Jersey

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, August 27, 2024

Co-Author, The Paradox of The Three Wise Monkeys: Discovery And Disclosure Of Information Regarding Dangerous Health Care Providers

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, July 17, 2024

Co-Author, The Paradox of the Three Wise Monkeys: Discovery and Disclosure of Information Regarding Dangerous Health Care Providers

Widener Law Review, Summer 2024

Author, A Giggle a Day?

Greenbaum Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, June 8, 2023

Author, Sir William Osler and his Eccentric New Jersey Patient

MDAdvisor Spring 2023

Author, BME Denies License Reinstatement in First Application of Statute Directing Refusal of Licensure Because of Conviction for Sexual Offenses

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, March 17, 2023

Co-Author, Case of First Impression: No Parental Liability for Medical Services Provided to Adult Children with Insurance Coverage Under the ACA

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, January 26, 2023

Co-Author, Right of Privacy in South Carolina's Constitution Provides Protection for Right to Choose to Terminate Pregnancy

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, January 17, 2023

Author, Rejection of Constitutional Right to Medical Aid in Dying as Protected by State Constitution

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, January 5, 2023

Author, Utilization of the Medical Aid in Dying Act in New Jersey

MDAdvisor, Fall 2022

Author, Another Case of First Impression Concerning the Affidavit of Merit Statute

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, November 18, 2022

Author, Suspension or Revocations of Medical Licenses Based on Crimes of Moral Turpitude

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, October 26, 2022

Co-Author, Questions Persist Regarding Protection of Abortion-Related Information When Considering HIPAA, State Laws, and Ethical Considerations

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, September 21, 2022

Co-Author, Physician Noncompetes May Get Federal Antitrust Treatment

Law360, September 20, 2022

Author, An Analysis of the Impact of Retirement on Expert Witness Qualification

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, August 16, 2022

Author, Effect of Enforcement of Post-Dobbs State Law Abortion Restrictions Extend Beyond the Borders of the State

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, August 8, 2022

Author, Paying Peer Reviewers: An Ongoing Debate

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, August 5, 2022

Author, New Jersey Medical Aid in Dying Act Upheld on Appeal

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, July 19, 2022

Co-Author, Three Issues to Consider When Assessing the Impact of the U.S. Supreme Court's Decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Healthcare Perspectives Blog, July 14, 2022

Author, Dedicated Volunteer Nurse and Devoted Wife During the Civil War

MDAdvantage, Spring 2022

Co-Author, Inpatient CPR, COVID-19, and the Duty to Treat: At the Intersection of Medical Ethics and Public Health Ethics with a Review of the Literature

MD Advisor, Winter 2021

Author, John S. Rock and Antebellum Voting Rights for Blacks in New Jersey

New Jersey Law Journal, February 12, 2021

Author, New Jersey Authorizes Pharmacists to Conduct COVID-19 Testing

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, May 20, 2020

Author, Governor Murphy Issues Executive Order 138 Further Extending New Jersey's Public Health Emergency

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, May 6, 2020

Author, Requirements and Standards For Foreign Licensed Physicians To Obtain Temporary Licensure in New Jersey

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, April 20, 2020

Author, Relaxation of Certificate of Need Requirements for Ventilator Beds And DOH Model Policy for Allocation of Ventilation Resources

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, April 17, 2020

Author, Governor Murphy Signs Executive Order Extending Public Health Emergency in New Jersey

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, April 8, 2020

Author, With Executive Order 112, NJ Waives Regulatory Restrictions on Scope of Licensure for Healthcare Professionals and Provides Broad Immunity from Civil Liability

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, April 3, 2020

Author, COVID-19 Healthcare Law Update: CMS Modification of EMTALA Requirements

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, April 2, 2020

Co-Author, Title III of the CARES Act: Supporting America's Health Care System in the Fight Against the Coronavirus

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, March 31, 2020

Co-Author, COVID-19: When Mandatory Isolation and Quarantine Become Necessary

New Jersey Law Journal, March 25, 2020

Author, NJ Legislation Authorizes Use of Telemedicine; Provides for Coverage of Related Expenses

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, March 23, 2020

Author, New Jersey Waives Restrictions on Licensure for Out-Of-State Health Practitioners

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Client Alert, March 23, 2020

Author, Walt Whitman's Healing Presence

MD Advisor, Winter 2020

Author, The Hornblower Decision and Fugitive Slaves in New Jersey

New Jersey Law Journal, 224 N.J.L.J. 422, February 12, 2018

Author, A Case Note Regarding Force-Feeding of Anorexic Patients and the Right to Die

MDAdvisor, Fall 2017

Author, In The Matter of Karen Ann Quinlan After 40 Years: Some Personal Remembrances from the Sidelines of History

MD Advisor, Summer 2016

Author, The Uses, Abuses, and Ethics of Phantom Impeachment

For The Defense, October 22, 2014

Author, John S. Rock: From South Jersey Roots to SCOTUS First

New Jersey Law Journal, 215 N.J.L.J. 475, February 24, 2014

Co-Author, Staying Out of the Rabbit Hole: The Entanglements of Altered Medical Records

For The Defense, July 2010

Co-Author, Understanding, Forecasting, and Challenging Penalties Issued by the Board of Medical Examiners

New Jersey Lawyer Magazine, 244 N.J.L.M. 41, February 2007

Bioterrorism Preparedness: Isolation and Quarantine Issues

New Jersey Law Journal, 179 N.J.L.J. 450, March 21, 2005

NEWS

2026 Edition of *Best Lawyers* Recognizes 54 Attorneys in 41 Practice Areas: Eight Greenbaum Lawyers Recognized on "Ones to Watch" List
August 21, 2025

Thirty-Five Attorneys from Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis Selected for Inclusion in 2025 Edition of New Jersey Super Lawyers
March 20, 2025

2025 Edition of *Best Lawyers* Recognizes 56 Attorneys in 39 Practice Areas: Ten Greenbaum Lawyers Recognized on "Ones to Watch" List; Three Selected for "Lawyer of the Year" Recognition
August 15, 2024

John Zen Jackson Appointed Vice President of Medical History Society of New Jersey
May 10, 2024

Thirty-Four Attorneys from Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis Selected for Inclusion in 2024 Edition of New Jersey Super Lawyers
March 26, 2024

2024 Edition of *Best Lawyers* Recognizes 59 Attorneys in 38 Practice Areas: Twelve Greenbaum Lawyers Recognized on "Ones to Watch" List; Five Selected for "Lawyer of the Year" Recognition
August 17, 2023

2023 Edition of *Best Lawyers* Recognizes 51 Attorneys in 36 Practice Areas: Nine Greenbaum Lawyers Recognized on "Ones to Watch" List; Seven Selected for "Lawyer of the Year" Recognition
August 18, 2022