

C. Brian Kornbrek
PARTNER

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Having been an engineer, I try to look beyond the law to understand the technical aspects of a case, which are often based in engineering or scientific principles. The client understands these technical complexities and in order to be effective in pursuing the client's goals, I need to do the same.

Brian concentrates his practice in litigation, with a particular focus on the defense of automotive product liability claims against the manufacturers and distributors of motor vehicles and vehicle component parts. His representation of clients in this area encompasses breach of warranty and other consumer claims, including individual or class consumer litigation related to alleged violations of the consumer fraud act and the New Jersey Lemon Law.

Brian represents product manufacturers and property owners in the New Jersey Asbestos Multicounty Litigation for claims related to alleged asbestos exposure. He represents a motor vehicle financing company in connection with claims for violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and the Truth in Lending Act. Additionally, he represents self-insured hospitality industry clients in the defense of premises liability claims, including insurance coverage and affirmative indemnification claims.

Prior to attending law school, Brian developed significant technical expertise when he practiced as an electrical engineer. His understanding of technical issues is an asset to his capabilities as a litigator.

Departments

Litigation

Practice Groups

Banking & Financial Services
Litigation

Product Liability

Education

Rutgers University School of
Law, Newark, J.D. with
honors, 1992

Cornell University, B.S.E.E.,
1986

Bar Admissions

New Jersey, 1992

New York, 1993

U.S. Court of Appeals, Third
Circuit, 1998

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

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

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

- Achieved a significant victory on behalf of Howard Johnson International, Inc. in *Sayles v. G&G Hotels, Inc.* The 2013 decision is significant in that it is the first published decision in which the Appellate Division approved a broad indemnification provision which provided for indemnification even for acts of one's own negligence. While the New Jersey Courts had previously indicated that such clauses were enforceable, previous Appellate Division decisions had found the clauses examined to be unenforceable
- Obtained summary judgment dismissing a putative class action in *Stevenson v. American Honda Finance Corp.* The Court ruled that assignees of consumer credit contracts are not subject to Truth-in-Lending Act (TILA) liability based upon TILA violations by the originating lender, and thus would significantly limit the exposure of certain purchasers of consumer credit obligations. Read more about this case.

UNIQUELY NJ

- New Jersey State Bar Association

MORE ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCE

- American Bar Association, Litigation Section
- *Rutgers Law Review*, Managing Editor (1991 – 1992)