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THE FIRM

On July 4, 1996, the founding partners of this firm, Daniel S. Jahnsen and Terrence J. Bolan, declared their independence from their former employers and commenced a practice concentrating in the trial of contested matters before our State's Superior and Federal Courts. The goal was simple; provide a sharply focused, yet resourcefully creative, level of advocacy on behalf of clients.

What makes the firm unique is that it has taken the edge and confidence associated with trial attorneys with hundreds of verdicts under their belts and combined it with a supporting cast of detail oriented attorneys who challenge us, and each other, in their approach to their cases and their craft. No eggheads, no pencil-necked geeks. Just razor sharp, competitive and consummate professionals.

We understand too that we are in a service industry; our clients place a premium on being kept "real time" on their cases. Yet given the stressful nature of the business, we also put our own premium on filling this need with a succinct reporting which cuts to the chase. We have learned how to focus the pretrial process and discern what is needed to obtain the desired results and what is unnecessary, superfluous "overpreparation" often done by lawyers who rarely try cases.

We'd love to say the growth and continued success of the firm is the result of some grand design. The fact is that it is more likely due to a tremendous fear of failure. That motivation has not only led to favorable verdicts before juries, but also to our participation in numerous Appellate and Supreme Court decisions which have helped sculpt the law. Our dedication in this regard allows us to enjoy the respect of the members of the bench and our esteemed colleagues of the bar. At the end of the day, we love what we do and the way we do it, and are grateful first and foremost, to the loyal clients we serve.

OUR WORK

Let's preface this section by admitting that lawyers in general are typically really bad at those things which they're not really good at. We know this because on far too many occasions we end up representing the lawyer who strayed too far from his niche. That being said, we are excellent both in court and in the handling and positioning of cases that may end up there. We understand and are committed to shortening the litigation cycle whenever we can, so we will drive the appropriate cases to mediation or other available forums. Whether a case is a multi-party conflict involving esoteric issues of law, science or medicine, or garden-variety negligence, there's pretty much nothing we haven't seen or handled. Here's a snapshot of the types of cases that routinely find their way through our doors.

- **General Negligence and Bodily Injury**
- **Commercial Premises Liability**
- **Commercial Litigation**
- **Products Liability**
- **Professional Liability**
- **Insurance Coverage**
- **Trucking**
- **Architects and Engineers**
- **Workers' Compensation**
- **Public Entity – Title 59 and Sec. 1983 Civil Rights**
- **Negligent Security**
- **Construction Defect**
- **Employment Practices**
- **Pharmacy**
- **Reinsurance Arbitration**
- **Wills, Trusts, Estate Planning, Probate**
- **Real Estate**

OUR ATTORNEYS

DANIEL S. JAHNSEN, Sr.

When Daniel S. Jahnsen started the firm he benefited from the friendly advice of a local businessman who said, "Son, the true secret of success is to surround yourself with people who are smarter than you...and in your case that should be pretty easy." Dan does, however, come with some credentials.

“Cum Laude” and “With Honors” are terms unassociated with the graduation of Daniel S. Jahnsen from Seton Hall University. Upon graduation, he hopped the #31 bus to Seton Hall Law where he continued his ersatz erudition and even became good friends with several members of the Law Review. In his first job, with an established North Jersey firm, he gained a taste for civil litigation and, lacking any transferable skills, he has remained in that rut ever since. Still, Jahnsen believes "If you're in a rut, you may as well make it interesting." Following his own advice, he has cultivated a clientele who have blessed him with the opportunity to try a wide variety of cases. He has gained their confidence by having amassed more than 200 verdicts before juries and in his participation in numerous Appellate and Supreme Court decisions.

Mr. Jahnsen is admitted to New Jersey State Bar and Federal District Court of New Jersey. He is also a former board member of the New Jersey Surplus Lines Association, and a member of NAPSLO, DRI, PLUS, CLM and the American Bar Association.

TERRENCE J. BOLAN, ESQ. (June 22, 1960 – July 1, 2022)

[My Obit](#)

Though most of you are familiar with him as a result of his high profile role as a Commissioner for the burgeoning megalopolis of Allenhurst, New Jersey (270 registered voters), in the light of day, Terrence J. Bolan is an accomplished trial attorney.

Terry is a cum laude graduate of Wake Forest University with a B.A. in Psychology where he also enjoyed Distinguished Military Graduate status which helped us *big time* in gaining entrance to the very affordable Golf Club at Fort Monmouth. Noting that the difference between a 12-inch pizza and a Psychology Major is that a 12-inch pizza can feed a family of four, Terry went on to obtain his Juris Doctor from Wake Forest University School of Law before returning to New Jersey just in time to see the Mets win their last World Series. Terry undoubtedly possesses an extra “Y” chromosome; he is a natural trial attorney who lives to be in court. He has tried upwards of 150 cases to verdict. He is recognized by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Certified Civil Trial Attorney.

Beyond his extensive medical malpractice and dram shop trial experience, he has also tried many complex cases involving products liability, premises liability, employment discrimination and other

esoteric minutiae capable of boring the pigeons off the courthouse roof. Terry lectures on issues ranging from Trial Strategy, Liquor Liability and Insurance Coverage. Most noteworthy, he authored and presented “Contractual Risk Transfer: Construction of Indemnification Agreements and Additional Insured Endorsements” before the North American Reinsurance Claims Conference, and is actively seeking to sell the movie rights on that subject (current E-bay bid: \$2.13).

Mr. Bolan is admitted to New Jersey State Bar, Federal District Court of New Jersey, Third Circuit Court of Appeals, and United States Supreme Court. He also passed the Florida State Bar but has thus far refused to join the “Early Bird” crowd despite being a seasoned member of AARP.

L. PATRICK DACEY, ESQ.

Pat Dacey is a cum laude and international honor society graduate of North Carolina State University with a B.A. in Political Science. He obtained his Juris Doctor from Seton Hall University and attended a summer semester in law school at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. On account of his nerdish first impression, previous employers relegated Pat to the tedium of highly esoteric legal research and the intellectual rigor of complex commercial litigation. As Bolan noted after his interview, “obviously they weren’t playing to his strengths.” Pat’s a trial lawyer, pure and simple, and even though he wasn’t exactly certain of it right off the bat, we were. After kicking and screaming all the way to the courthouse, he found in short order he loved the courtroom and has flourished there ever since. With about 75 verdicts under his belt and being recognized by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Certified Civil Trial Attorney, Pat has developed a loyal following of clients in the hospitality and security industries and has participated in several landmark decisions.

Outside the office, Pat previously served on the Board of the South Wall Little League. He was kind of like the Bud Selig of the southern Monmouth County town he grew up in. While this volunteerism is certainly time-consuming, the flip side is that it makes Pat look forward to retreating to the relative peace of the courthouse. There can be a lot of drama in baseball.

Mr. Dacey is admitted to New Jersey State Bar and Federal District Court of New Jersey.

THOMAS R. WALTERS, ESQ.

Tom Walters is a musical virtuoso with a natural voice and face for radio, Tom ultimately succumbed to his passion for law and received his Juris Doctor from Seton Hall University School of Law, where he served as Associate Editor of the Law Review. Undergraduate, Tom attended the prestigious engineering institution, University of Scranton, where he earned a B.S. in Political Science and a Philosophy minor. Upon graduating law school, Mr. Walters clerked for a Law Division Judge in the Superior Court, Essex County. Prior to joining the firm, Tom focused on products liability, construction litigation, civil rights litigation, premises liability and general negligence claims, and also served as corporate counsel for a multi-national insurer. While working for said “multi-national insurer” we approached Tom and invited him to be on board with us “day one”. He politely declined the offer, preferring the stability of the corporate world. We harbor no ill will against him for this decision. If we had, we would be seen chiding him on this decision and reminding him that said company is now about as stable as a South American democracy. Obviously we felt no need to go there.

Mr. Walters is a seasoned trial attorney with over 50 cases tried to verdict. His primary areas of practice are products liability, trucking litigation, public entity, construction litigation, workers compensation, insurance coverage litigation and premises liability. He has also defended charitable organizations, law enforcement agencies and officers against claims ranging from civil rights violations to dangerous conditions of property.

Mr. Walters is admitted to the New Jersey State Bar, Federal District Court of New Jersey and Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

VICKI SHEA CONNOLLY, ESQ.

If you asked Dan Jahnsen “what is the secret to the firm’s success?” he’d probably say “Dan Jahnsen”. If you ask anyone whose opinion really counts, you’d find near unanimity that no one is more indispensable to the firm than Vicki Shea-Connolly. “Why?” you ask. We have no idea! And when you think of it, that’s the true genius of Vicki.

Ms. Shea Connolly is a cum laude graduate of the Catholic University of America. She received her JD from University of Denver College of Law where, in all likelihood, she was cum laude too, but chose not to disclose this in her interview here, sensing Jahnsen’s increasing frustration with the academic superiority of every other attorney in the firm. Following law school, Ms. Connolly somehow survived a one-year clerkship with the Honorable Alexander Lehrer, a brilliant jurist if there ever was one, but widely known to have a temper which rises in inverse proportion to the descending IQs of those who appear before him. For those unfamiliar, trying a case on the odd side of Judge Lehrer is somewhat akin to going down in a plane crash ...and living.

After her clerkship, Vicki worked in a real firm for a couple of years before we lured her over here. For reasons she can’t even explain, the larger, more complex cases find their way into her office. In addition to being a master legal strategist, Vicki is uniquely capable of keeping Jahnsen’s ego in check while also making Bolan’s office seem neat by comparison.

Ms. Connolly is admitted to New Jersey State Bar and Federal District Court of New Jersey, a member of the NJDA and CLM.

JUDY TABOADA, ESQ.

Judy Taboada graduated from Rutgers University with a B.S. in Public Health and a minor in Art History. For all we know she had a Phi Beta Kappa key, graduated Magna Cum Laude, and was Valedictorian, but with those majors, who cares! Realizing a minor in Art History couldn’t land you a job as a paper weight, she applied to law school, and it was at Seton Hall University School of Law where she took flight. At Seton Hall she was a member of the Legislative Law Journal and also assisted her professor in publishing an article in Harvard’s Journal of Law & Public Policy.

We’re not quite sure how Judy found us. We suspect she Googled “Opposite of Public Health with No Interest in Art History” and we were her only hit. Her resume (conspicuously silent as to her college curriculum) was impressive in revealing that she was the law clerk for the Presiding Civil Judge of Bergen County. For those unfamiliar, clerking for the presiding judge is one of the most difficult jobs in the courthouse. It requires in-depth knowledge of diverse areas of law, a high degree of organization, and personal skills to deal with demanding personalities.

We think Judy’s professional goal is to be a neat version of Vicki Shea-Connolly. Like Vicki, she seems to be a magnet for the complex matter commanding creativity and a passionate application of the law. Her practice focuses in General Liability and Professional Liability claims.

Ms. Taboada is admitted to the New Jersey State Bar, Federal District Court of New Jersey and New York State Bar.

LINDSAY PORUCHYNSKY, ESQ.

Lindsay Poruchynsky (pronounced “Smith”) is the only person whose last name comes up in spell check more often than Dan’s and for whatever reason cannot be added to “Dictionary” in Word. This is particularly upsetting for this seemingly mild-mannered attorney who’s been known to inadvertently bump into a chair and then apologize to it. Make no mistake though, beneath the velvet gloves are the cold steel hands of a precocious attorney who suffers no fools yet still manages to work for a firm festooned with them.

She is a graduate of University of Richmond, with Honors, with a major in Political Science and American Studies with a History minor. Thus she, Taboada and Papa can spend hours discussing how their qualifications were never much of a topic in the Monster.com classifieds. She next went to Seton Hall School of Law where she earned her J.D. before clerking with the Hon. Daniel Waldman in Monmouth County.

She has been active in advocating human rights on behalf of immigrants during law school, and was involved in forming the Human Trafficking Law Society. Ironically, she now finds herself tethered to a desk here and is known to be the first in and last to leave.

Ms. Poruchynsky is admitted to New York and New Jersey State Bars and Federal District Court of New Jersey.