



Alan J. Pierce

Partner



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Alan J. Pierce is a partner in the Litigation Practice and Leader of the Appellate Practice. He has more than 20 years of litigation experience, concentrating on appellate practice, insurance coverage, defamation and civil and commercial litigation. Mr. Pierce has handled numerous appeals in his career, appearing before the New York State Court of Appeals, all four Departments of the State's Appellate Divisions and in the Second, Fourth and Eleventh United States Circuit Courts of Appeals. He has served as trial and appellate counsel in successful actions for defamation and insurance bad faith. Mr. Pierce has authored several publications on appellate practice and insurance coverage, and lectures on behalf of the NYSBA and the Office of Court Administration on appellate advocacy and insurance coverage litigation. Prior to joining the Firm, he served as Confidential Law Clerk to the Hon. Richard D. Simons, New York State Court of Appeals.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate
- Litigation
- Commercial Litigation
- Insurance Litigation
- Products Liability Litigation

RECOGNITIONS AND HONORS

- Rated, AV Preeminent, Martindale-Hubbell
- Selected, *The Best Lawyers in America* (2008-2018)
- Selected, Insurance Law, "Lawyer of the Year" in Syracuse, *The Best Lawyers in America* (2016)
- Selected, Upstate - New York, Super Lawyers (2007-2017)
- [Empire State Counsel, New York State Bar Association \(2013\)](#)

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Chair, NYSBA Committee on Courts of Appellate Jurisdiction
- Member, Empire State Counsel, New York State Bar Association
- Member, Onondaga County Bar Association
- Member, New York State Trial Lawyers Association
- Member, New York State Bar Association
- Member, St. Lawrence County Bar Association

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Fourth Department to the Fifth Judicial District Character & Fitness Committee
- Member, New York State Bar Association Task Force on Mandatory Retirement of Judges
- Member, New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers, Board of Directors

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- New York State Bar Association, "2015 Law School for Insurance Professionals" (September 2015)
- New York State Bar Association, "The Before and After of K2 Investment Group LLC v. American Guarantee & Liability Ins. Co." (May 2014)
- NYSBA, "New York Appellate Practice" (November 2013)
- NYSBA, "New York Appellate Practice" (October 2013)
- New York State Bar Association, "Advanced Insurance Practice 2013 - Bad Faith Update" (May 2013)
- NYSBA Annual Meeting 2013 - Young Lawyers Section, "Significant 2012 Decisions of the Court of Appeals and Appellate Division Departments" (January 2013)
- First Party Claims Conference, "Water Losses - Damage and Coverage" (October 2012)
- NYSBA CLE, "The Comprehensive Second Circuit: Practice in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals" (October 2012)

PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS

- [Hancock Estabrook Higher Education Law Alert - Fisher v. University of Texas](#) (June 2013)
- ["Taxation of Contaminated Property: Should Property Owners Get a Break?"](#), *Hancock Estabrook Newsletter*, November 2012
- [What Does it Mean if Your Appeal as of Right Lacks a "Substantial" Constitutional Question in the New York Court of Appeals?](#), *Albany Law Review*

EDUCATION

- Syracuse University College of Law, J.D., *summa cum laude*, 1984
 - Dean's Outstanding Representative Award
 - President, Justinian Honor Society
 - Order of the Coif
 - *Editor-In-Chief, Syracuse Law Review*
- St. Lawrence University, B.A., *summa cum laude*, 1981

ADMISSIONS

- New York
- United States Court of Appeals (Eleventh Circuit)
- United States Court of Appeals (Fourth Circuit)
- United States Court of Appeals (Second Circuit)
- United States District Court (EDNY)
- United States District Court (NDNY)
- United States District Court (SDNY)
- United States District Court (WDNY)
- United States Supreme Court