

Barry N. Mesher

Shareholder
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Areas of Practice

Barry Mesher focuses his practice on toxic tort, mass and municipal tort, premises liability, insurance coverage, personal injury, product liability, professional liability and labor and employment law. He was a co-founder of the Washington Asbestos Defense Association and has served as its Court Liaison and President. He is a member of the American College of Law and Medicine and New York Academy of Sciences. Barry has been involved in the “bet the company” asbestos litigation continuously since 1980. He regularly serves as national, regional and local counsel for firm clients, devising and executing comprehensive defense strategies in mass tort cases across the country.

Admitted to Practice

Washington
U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Washington
Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
U.S. Supreme Court

Academics

University of Puget Sound (J.D., 1977; B.S., with honors, 1973)
University of Washington School of Law
Claremont Graduate School (M.A., with honors, 1974)

Practice Group and Specialty Team Memberships

Aviation
Class Action Defense
Director and Office Liability
Environmental
ERISA Litigation
Health Care
Insurance and Toxic Tort
Labor and Employment
London
Manufacturing
Native American Affairs
Premises Liability
Product Liability
Professional Liability
Public/Private Partnerships
Railroad and Mass Transportation

Representative Cases

Head of the Joint Defense Counsel and Lead Trial Counsel in *Port of Tacoma v. Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London, et al*; *Port of Everett v. Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London et al*; *Marine Industries Northwest Inc. v. Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London, et al*; *Zidell Marine Corporation v. Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London, et al* (Federal Court and State Court - Hylebos Claims) - Environmental Coverage Litigation

National, regional and/or local counsel in the defense of asbestos personal injury and property damage litigation since 1980

Program, loss control and defense counsel for employment issues

Lead trial counsel in *Bradley v. City of Ellensburg, et al* - Civil rights litigation

Publications

"Expanding The Duty To Warn In Wash. Liability Case," *Law360*, Porfolio Media, Inc., October 21, 2008

"The Role of an Insurance Lawyer," *Insurance Settlements and Negotiations*, Aspatore Books, 2006

Speaking Engagements

Barry is a frequent speaker at Defense Research Institute and Washington State Bar Association Seminars

"In-House Corporate and Insurer Panel on Financial & Legal Decisions, Managing Claims, Lowering Defense Costs and Settlement Negotiations," American Conference Institute's 12th National Forum on Asbestos Claims & Litigation, January 26, 2011 (Moderator)

Awards and Honors

Peer Review Rated "AV" in Martindale-Hubbell

Named as a "Washington Super Lawyer," *Super Lawyers* magazine, Class Action/Mass Torts, 2006-2011 ("Top 100 Washington Super Lawyers," 2010-2011)

Professional and Community Activities

Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Association

Federal Bar Association

Defense Research Institute (Industry-Wide Litigation Committee)

Committee of Bar Examiners, Washington State Bar Association

American Bar Association (Governmental Liability Sub-Committee)

First Amendment Lawyers Association

Founder, Court Liaison and President (1986), Washington Asbestos Defense Association (1979-1986)

Member, New York Academy of Sciences

Member, American College of Law and Medicine

Master, Honorable Robert J. Bryan American Inns of Court

Committee Member, King County Judicial Conferencing Committee (2011)