



Shareholder | Providence, RI

James R. Oswald

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Overview

Jim solves problems for people in crisis, representing entities and individuals in complex litigation in Rhode Island and other New England jurisdictions.

He brings to his practice – in [commercial litigation](#), asbestos defense, and [toxic tort defense](#) – over 30 years of high-profile trial and appellate experience. Jim also is a member of the firm’s Appellate Group.

Tenacious in finding creative solutions to his clients’ most difficult problems, Jim has decades of experience defending national companies in hundreds of asbestos-related injury cases in Rhode Island, Connecticut and Maine. He also serves as National Coordinating Counsel for a large multi-national company, actively managing thousands of asbestos-related cases in a dozen jurisdictions.

Jim is fluent in French.

Credentials

Practices

- [Litigation](#)

Education

- New York University (J.D., 1991)
- University of Michigan (B.A., Phi Beta Kappa, 1983)
- Universite d’Aix-Marseille (France) (1981–82)

Admissions

- Rhode Island
- Connecticut
- New York
- Maine

- District of Columbia
- U.S. District Court, District of Rhode Island
- U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut
- U.S. District Court, Southern and Eastern Districts of New York

Honors

- Recognized as on the the "500 Leading Litigators in America" by *Lawdragon*, 2025.
- *Best Lawyers' 2022* Lawyer of the Year, Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions – Defendants, Providence.
- Selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the field of Mass Tort / Class Actions – Defendants, 2015 -2025.
- *Best Lawyers' 2015* Lawyer of the Year, Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions – Defendants, Providence. Jim was one of 14 lawyers in New England who won "Lawyer of the Year" the very first year selected to *Best Lawyers in America*®.
- New York University School of Law Moot Court Board winner of a prestigious national moot court competition.
- Selected as a Rhode Island *Super Lawyer*, 2008-2019.