

Five Hermes Netburn Attorneys Named to Best Lawyers in America ©

RELATED ATTORNEYS

John R. Felice
Peter G. Hermes
Kevin J. O'Connor
Holly M. Polglase
Anthony J. Sbarra, Jr.

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(Boston, MA. – August 2018) Hermes Netburn O'Connor and Spearing, P.C. is pleased to announce that five shareholders were named in this year's *Best Lawyers in America*® publication. Attorneys selected by their peers for inclusion in this year's directory include shareholders Peter Hermes, Holly Polglase, John Felice, Kevin O'Connor, and Anthony J. Sbarra, Jr. This distinction is only bestowed upon the most esteemed lawyers in the industry, recognizing only 4% of the attorneys in the United States. Hermes, Netburn is particularly proud of this recognition, as it reflects the firm's commitment to excellence in the legal profession. The firm's lawyers strive to provide their clients with innovative and practical solutions at unsurpassed value. Hermes Netburn's lawyers represent national and international businesses, insurance companies and individuals in a wide range of matters throughout New England and beyond.

THE HONORED ATTORNEYS

Peter G. Hermes is recognized by *Best Lawyers* in the Insurance Law category. Peter is the President and a founding shareholder of Hermes, Netburn, O'Connor & Spearing, P.C. He has over forty years of experience handling cutting edge insurance coverage, bad faith and complex construction matters. His broad trial practice also includes cases involving surety law, corporate disputes, intellectual property rights, patent licensing agreements, defamation claims and environmental torts.

Holly M. Polglase is recognized by *Best Lawyers* in Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions-Defendants; Personal Injury Litigation/Defendants and Product Liability Litigation/Defendants this year. Holly was recognized as "Best Lawyer of the Year" in 2018 for Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions-Defendants. Named to the directory for several years, Holly is a well-known lawyer who acts as lead counsel in the defense and trial of complex product liability, pharmaceutical, medical device, toxic tort, asbestos, general liability and commercial matters. With over twenty-five years of experience, Holly represents product manufacturers, sellers and other businesses for catastrophic losses. Holly has a rich history of serving her industry, most recently as the 2018 Chair of the ABA's Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section (TIPS).

John R. Felice is recognized by *Best Lawyers* in the Personal Injury Litigation/Defendants category. John has nearly twenty years of experience representing manufacturers and distributors of asbestos-containing products in toxic tort cases pending throughout New

England. He also serves as national coordinating counsel for a major automotive retailer and is charged with managing the litigation against that retailer throughout the U.S. John also has substantial experience defending product liability claims involving consumer, commercial and industrial products and representing insurers, insurance claim administrators, and other stakeholders in connection with complex insurance coverage matters. In addition to the top quality service he provides to his clients, John is an active member of the legal community and currently serves as the Vice President of the Massachusetts Defense Lawyers Association (MDLA).

Kevin J. O'Connor is recognized by Best Lawyers in the Insurance Law category. Kevin is a founding shareholder of Hermes, Netburn, O'Connor & Spearing, P.C. and has nearly thirty years of experience representing insurance companies in all aspects of trial, arbitration and appeal in coverage, bad faith, reinsurance recovery and surety matters in jurisdictions throughout the United States. He also has extensive experience in construction, environmental and commercial litigation matters.

Anthony J. Sbarra, Jr. is recognized by Best Lawyers in the Personal Injury Litigation/Defendants category and Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions/Defendants. Tony's practice focuses in civil litigation with an emphasis on products liability and toxic torts. He defends manufacturers of automobiles, light, medium and heavy trucks, construction equipment, farm/agricultural equipment, electrical equipment, wire and cable and other products in products liability cases. He also defends toxic tort actions, particularly those involving asbestos. With 30 years of experience, Tony has tried to verdict more than 30 Superior Court and 60 District Court actions and arbitrated or mediated several hundred cases. He also serves as a neutral arbitrator in personal injury cases and has been court appointed as guardian ad litem for persons injured in such cases. Mr. Sbarra is admitted to practice in the state and federal courts of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. He has received the Preeminent AV rating from Martindale Hubbell and has been elected by his fellow trial lawyers as an Associate Member of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is a Past President of the Massachusetts Defense Lawyers Association (MDLA) and a past member of its Board of Directors. He was also named a Super Lawyer by the publishers of Law & Politics and Boston Magazine from 2011 through 2018. Presently, he is the Massachusetts State Membership Chair for the Defense Research Institute (DRI) and serves as one of its national speakers.

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source of legal referrals anywhere.

Since it was first published in 1983, *Best Lawyers* has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. *Best Lawyers* lists are compiled based on an exhaustive peer-review evaluation. 83,000 industry leading attorneys are eligible to vote (from around the world), and we have received almost 10 million evaluations on the legal abilities of other lawyers based on their specific practice areas around the world. For the 2018 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 7.4 million votes were analyzed, which resulted in more than 58,000 leading lawyers being included in the new edition. Corporate Counsel magazine has called *Best Lawyers* “the most respected referral list of attorneys in practice.”