



**Deva A. Solomon** | Member

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**LICENSURE** CO | PA | WV  
**EDUCATION** J.D. West Virginia University

Deva is a Member of the firm of Steptoe & Johnson in the Denver office where he maintains a diverse litigation and counseling practice. Deva is the Practice Group Leader for the firm's Professional Liability Group, which assists professional liability clients on a national scale. He is known for his ability to craft creative, out of the box solutions to client problems. Deva uses his skills to help manage clients' stress and worry by partnering with them to quickly evaluate the situation and develop the appropriate course of action to solve today's problem, while understanding the implications actions of today may have on the future of the client's business.

If litigation is necessary, Deva uses his creative approach to defend clients at trial, manage litigation and discovery, and negotiate. Having been located in multiple shale plays, Deva has a variety of experience protecting the interests of energy companies in litigation involving contract, tort, and operational issues. He also focuses on the defense of claims involving significant injury and death. He has extensive experience defending physicians, nursing homes, nurses, and hospitals, and he has also defended attorneys in legal malpractice and breach of fiduciary duty claims. He regularly manages e-discovery matters and other document intensive cases.

As the Professional Liability Practice Group Leader, head of the firm's Litigation and Labor Associate Training Committee, and member of the Paralegal Committee, Deva strives to train younger professionals on the importance of client service. When he is not at the office, he loves to ski, hike, run, bike, and enjoy the outdoors with his family. He is a frequent visitor to the mountains of Colorado and Utah.

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Lead counsel in six-day jury trial defending employee of oil field service provider in case involving double thumb amputation on well pad

### PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY:

Won motions to dismiss for lack of personal jurisdiction for parent companies of nursing facilities in multiple states

Defended long term care facilities in wrongful death and resident care litigation in three different states

Represented numerous physicians in medical malpractice actions in multiple states

Represented hospitals and physicians in medical malpractice litigation and at trial

Won motions to enforce arbitration agreements between long term care facilities and patients

Defended long term care facilities in arbitration matters

Represented physician in dispute over control of partnership and allegations of mismanagement

Successfully defended attorneys in legal malpractice claims

#### ENERGY LITIGATION:

Won summary judgment for operator in quiet title to resolve the distribution of in excess of \$10M in revenue

Coordinated settlement of litigation with multi-million dollar exposure involving ownership of interests in oil and gas wells

Won (voluntary dismissal after filing of motion for summary judgment) lawsuit for operator alleging improper deduction of post-production expenses

Verdict following trial for client of \$1.5M plus in breach of contract dispute over Joint Operating Agreement obligations between two energy companies

Emergency response to assist clients in navigating well site and other serious accidents, including fatalities

Prosecuted, defended, and resolved multiple declaratory judgment, quiet title, contract and other damages actions arising out of title disputes, oil and gas contracts, and oil and gas operations

Represented company in wrongful death litigation involving workplace accident in coal mine

Counseled energy company regarding litigation challenging leasing rights

#### GENERAL/COMMERCIAL LITIGATION:

Verdict for client in excess of \$1M in dispute over contract to purchase bitcoin

Defended government agencies and municipalities in governmental liability claims, including civil rights, employment, and personal injury claims

Argued on behalf of government agency before Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia

Litigated many document intensive cases involving complex document production issues, and cases with e-discovery issues

Significant litigation and negotiation experience in a wide variety of tort claims representing both individual and corporate defendants

Represented members of limited liability company in fraud and breach of contract claims over representations made prior to investment

## WORK EXPERIENCE

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND AWARDS**

### **PROFESSIONAL**

Colorado Defense Lawyers Association

Colorado Bar Association, Ethics Committee

Defense Research Institute

Sponsorship Chair for 2017 Defense Research Institute Civil Rights and Governmental Tort Liability Seminar

2017, 2018, and 2019 Colorado Super Lawyers® Rising Star

2015 and 2016 West Virginia Super Lawyers® Rising Star

Completed University of Virginia Trial Advocacy College

Order of the Coif

Phi Beta Kappa

United States Courts of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and Fourth Circuit

United States District Courts for the District of Colorado, the Northern District of West Virginia, and the Southern District of West Virginia

### **INDUSTRY/CIVIC**

Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, Health Care Committee

Denver Petroleum Club

Leadership West Virginia Class of 2014