

# Butler Buchanan, III

**Office Managing Attorney**

**Chair, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee**

**Attorney Hiring Chair**

[BBBuchanan@mdwcg.com](mailto:BBBuchanan@mdwcg.com)

Philadelphia – 215.575.2661



Butler (Buck) Buchanan, III provides significant contributions to the leadership of the firm through his multiple roles as Managing Attorney of the Philadelphia office, Attorney Hiring Chair and Chair of the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee. His years of experience in law practice and involvement and activity in numerous professional, industry and civic organizations provide the backdrop for his ability to successfully juggle these multiple positions.

As Managing Attorney, Buck oversees the operations, functions and initiatives of the firm's 130-attorney Philadelphia office. In his additional role as Attorney Hiring Chair, he is responsible for the recruitment and hiring of attorneys who join the firm. He also chairs the firm's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee where he is charged, along with his colleagues, with ensuring that the firm's deep commitment to equal opportunity employment and advancement is brought to fruition.

Buck is a former Bucks County Deputy District Attorney, and he was engaged in private practice with a defense litigation firm before joining Marshall Dennehey's Professional Liability Department in 1999. In that capacity, he devoted a significant portion of his law practice to the defense of insurance agents and brokers, securities dealers and attorneys. He also handled environmental and insurance coverage matters, in addition to generic insurance defense work.

He was promoted to Hiring Chair in 2003 and to lead the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee in 2009. During his tenure with the firm, he has also served two terms on Marshall Dennehey's Board of Directors.

In addition to his various duties for the firm, Buck is active in a number of legal and insurance organizations. He is currently a member of the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association. He is active in the Philadelphia Bar Association, where he has served as co-chair of the State-Civil Litigation Committee and as a member of the

## Practices

- Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation
- Environmental & Toxic Tort Litigation
- General Liability
- Commercial Litigation

Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention. He is currently co-chair of the Large Law Firm Management Committee. He is a current member and a past-president of the Philadelphia Association of Defense Counsel and serves on the Board of Directors of the Insurance Society of Philadelphia. He is additionally a member of the Pennsylvania Defense Institute and the Defense Research Institute, where he has served on its Board of Directors.

Buck graduated from Millersville University, *cum laude*, in 1976 and earned his J.D. from the Duquesne University School of Law in 1979. Devoted to community and civic affairs, he is a former member of the Advisory Board of the Sisters of Saint Joseph Welcome Center and a former member of the Board of Directors of Mercy Vocational High School.

## Education

- Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University (J.D., 1979)
- Millersville University of Pennsylvania (B.A., *cum laude*, 1976)

## Admissions

- Pennsylvania, 1979

## Honors & Awards

- AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale-Hubbell®
- Pennsylvania Super Lawyers (2009-2021)
- 2021 Renaissance Man Award, Philadelphia Chapter of the National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division
- 2021 Diversity Leader in Business Award, Philadelphia Business Journal

## Associations & Memberships

- American Bar Association
- Defense Research Institute, Board of Directors, 2001-2004; Pennsylvania State Representative, 1997-2000
- Senior Hearing Officer, Serving the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, 2018 - present; Hearing Officer, 2005-2011
- Insurance Society of Philadelphia, Member of Board of Directors, 2013 - present
- Lawyers Club of Philadelphia, Board of Trustees, 2020
- Montgomery County Archdiocesan Council on Elementary Education, Member, 2013-2017
- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Defense Institute
- Philadelphia Association of Defense Counsel, President, 2000-2001; Member, Executive Committee, 1996-2002
- Philadelphia Bar Association, Co-Chair, Large Law Firm Management Committee, 2019 - present; Chair, Campaign for Qualified Judges, 2015-2016
- Philadelphia Bar Association, Co-Chair of State-Civil Litigation Committee, 2012-2014; Member, Board of Governors, 2004-2006; 2014 - ; Member, Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention, 2012-2014
- Sisters of St. Joseph Welcome Center Advisory Board Member, 2008 - 2018

- Mercy Vocational High School, Board of Directors, 2010-2013

## **Classes/Seminars Taught**

- *Best Practices for Retaining & Promoting Diverse Talent*, Philadelphia Diversity Law Group's Diversity & Inclusion Symposium, November 2015
- Barristers' Association of Philadelphia Leadership Academy, January 2015
- *Do the Right Thing! - Ethical Issues Arising in Litigation*, Philadelphia Bar Association Bench-Bar Conference, October 2014
- *Women in the Profession Roundtable Discussion*, participant, *The Legal Intelligencer*, April 2014
- *Technology and Law*, DRI Annual Meeting
- *The Use of E-Mail and Electronic Documents Storage*, DRI Annual Meeting
- *Electronic Discovery*, DRI Seminar, Chicago, Illinois
- *Insurance Roundtable - Recent Developments Concerning Class Action Litigation*, DRI, Chicago, Illinois
- *Insurance Coverage and Practice*, DRI Seminar, New York, New York
- *Encouraging Ethics in Civility and Pre-Trial Practice*, Pennsylvania Defense Institute, Philadelphia, PA
- *Professionalism and Civility: Is Civility Still the Rule in Civil Litigation Today?* Atlantic City, New Jersey
- *Optimizing Brownfield Liability Recovery Through Insurance Settlement Strategies and Asset Management*, Washington, D.C.
- *Lawyers' Professionalism – What Does It Mean in Everyday Practice?* Philadelphia, PA
- Seminars presented for Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, National Insurance Industry Association

## **Published Works**

- "Success in Recruiting and Retaining Minority Attorneys Starts at the Top," *Diversity Insider Newsletter*, DRI, December 2018
- "Common Sense Ways to Increase Minority Representation Among Interviewees," *The Legal Intelligencer, Diversity Supplement*, April 2011
- "The Importance of Internet and Email Monitoring," *The Practical Lawyer*, December 2006

## **Significant Representative Matters**

- Successfully resolved numerous declaratory judgment actions seeking insurance coverage from numerous insurers wherein plaintiff corporations demanded payment of \$100 million(+) to resolve claims seeking environmental coverage, coverage for hearing loss, coverage for asbestos claims, and various other types of claims.
- Successfully defended case via jury trial wherein plaintiff physician sought several million dollars in coverage for long term disability coverage. Client was the insurance agent that sold the policies in question.

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## Thought Leadership

April 1, 2026

**Marshall Dennehey's Advanced Trial Advocacy & Mock Trial Program Turns 25**

December 1, 2022

**On the Pulse...Our Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Office**