

Dylan J. Smith

Associate

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Dylan is an associate attorney in the Casualty Department, where he concentrates his practice on product liability, premises liability, and automobile liability matters.

He earned his *juris doctor* from Temple University Beasley School of Law, graduating *cum laude*. During law school, Dylan pursued various hands-on learning opportunities. He interned at a plaintiff's firm, focusing on the Boy Scouts of America Bankruptcy Litigation. In his third year, he contributed to the Systemic Justice Project at the Stephen and Sandra Sheller Center for Social Justice, where he assisted clients in filing motions to waive court fees associated with their convictions and proposed a rule change to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to streamline court processes. Additionally, he held an externship with the City of Philadelphia's Tort Litigation unit.

Before law school, Dylan gained litigation experience as a legal practice assistant at a Philadelphia defense firm, supporting cases in patent, antitrust, and labor and employment law. He holds both a Bachelor and Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Drexel University.

Education

- Temple University Beasley School of Law (J.D., *cum laude*, 2024)
- Drexel University
 - M.S., 2020; B.S., 2020

Admissions

- Pennsylvania, 2024

Significant Representative Matters

- Assisted in securing a defense verdict in Delaware County after a four-day jury trial in a premises liability case against a local school. The plaintiff, a student, claimed an

Practices

- Product Liability
- Automobile Liability
- Premises & Retail Liability
- General Liability

Achilles heel injury and Chronic Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS), despite medical evidence to the contrary. The defense, which included aggressive cross-examination of medical and liability experts, along with surveillance evidence, successfully demonstrated the plaintiff's return as an undefeated captain of the school's tennis team. The case also featured a rejected \$200,000 mediation offer before the plaintiff's demand of \$1 million. After 2.5 hours of deliberation, the jury ruled in favor of the school.

Results

Successful Trial Outcome: Defense Prevails in Premises Liability Case

We secured a defense verdict in Delaware County after a four-day jury trial in a premises liability case against a local school. The plaintiff, a student, suffered an Achilles heel injury when cut by a door edge and claimed diminished leg function and Chronic Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS). Despite undergoing two surgeries, neither her surgeons nor treating physicians diagnosed CRPS. During trial, the defense highlighted that the student returned the following year as undefeated captain of the school's tennis team, winning at the state level. The case involved aggressive cross-examination of medical and liability experts, along with surveillance evidence of the plaintiff. Before trial, the demand was \$1 million, while the school offered \$200,000 at mediation—an offer the plaintiff rejected, walking out and refusing further negotiations. After just 2.5 hours of deliberation, the jury ruled in the school's favor.

Thought Leadership

June 1, 2025

Tsunami or Business as Usual: What Does the New Motorcycle Lemon Law Hold for Pennsylvania?