

David J. Shannon

Chair, Privacy and Data Security

**Chair, Intellectual Property, Technology and Media
Litigation**

DJShannon@mdwccg.com

Philadelphia – 215.575.2615



David chairs both the Privacy and Data Security Practice Group and the Intellectual Property, Technology and Media Litigation Practice Group. He concentrates a substantial portion of his practice on privacy law, data breaches, intellectual property, copyright and trademark infringement, as well as trade secret, trade dress technology and media related litigation. David is experienced defending privacy and intellectual property cases venued throughout the United States and has been litigating cases in federal and state courts since 1994. David is a national and international featured speaker at privacy and data security conferences and seminars. His presentations focus on legal issues and emerging trends in the insurance industry with an emphasis on all areas of privacy, data breach and data security.

David additionally represents design professionals in a variety of construction industry related claims. He has extensive experience representing architects, engineers, surveyors, land developers, commercial property owners, general contractors, subcontractors and commercial landscapers. David has defended clients in cases that involved claims for design errors and omissions and other contractual and negligence claims. Over the past 25 years, he has tried a number of bench trials, jury trials, and arbitrations.

Education

- Widener University Delaware Law School (J.D., 1994)
- Denison University (B.A., 1990)

Admissions

- New Jersey, 1994
- Pennsylvania, 1994
- U.S. Court of Appeals 3rd Circuit, 1998
- U.S. District Court Eastern District of Pennsylvania, 1998

Practices

- Privacy & Data Security
- Intellectual Property, Technology & Media Litigation
- Architectural, Engineering & Construction Defect Litigation
- Miscellaneous Professional Liability
- Commercial Litigation

- U.S. District Court District of New Jersey, 2000
- U.S. District Court Middle District of Pennsylvania, 2006

Honors & Awards

- Legal 500 Philadelphia Legal Elite, Intellectual Property (2025-2026)
- Pennsylvania Super Lawyers (2005, 2026)

Associations & Memberships

- Pennsylvania Bar Association, IP Law Section, Past Chair
- Philadelphia Bar Association
- Professional Liability Underwriting Society

Classes/Seminars Taught

- *PLUS Podcast: Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2026, Episode 1, Law Firm Cyber Attacks & the New Financial Sector Regulatory Landscape*, June 2026
- *PLUS Podcast: Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2025, Episode 2, Beyond the Breach: Remediation vs. Forensic Investigation*, December 2025
- *PLUS Podcast: Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2025, Episode 1, "Ransomware, Business Email Compromise, AI and The Increasing Sophistication of Cyber Threat Actors,"* July 2025
- *PLUS Podcast: Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2024, Episode 3, Restoration After The Data Breach*, December 2024
- *PLUS Podcast, Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2024, Episode 2: SEC Amendment's Impact on Compliance and Reporting*, July 2024
- *PLUS Podcast: Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2024, Episode 1: The Persisting Threat of Ransomware*, February 27, 2024
- *PLUS Podcast: Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2023. Episode 2: The Current State of Ransomware Attacks in 2023.* April 2023
- *Critical Infrastructure – A Global View on Cyber Risk and Systemic Threats*, ILG 360° London Annual Conference 2023, March 15, 2023
- *PLUS Podcast: Managing Cyber Security Threats in 2023. Episode 1: Cryptojacking - New Risks For Carriers and Their Insureds.* March 2023
- *Business Email Compromise & Wire Transfer Fraud - Evolving Trends and Cyber Crime*, Marshall Dennehey Client Webinar, Presented to Multiple Clients, 2022
- *Ransomware Attacks: An Ongoing Global Threat*, Marshall Dennehey Client Presentation, Presented to Multiple Clients, 2022
- *Ransomware Attacks: An Ongoing Global Threat*, ILG Virtual Conference, March 31, 2022
- *Cybersecurity: Crucial for a Law Firm's Survival*, Moderator, Philadelphia Association of Defense Counsel, November 16, 2021
- *Civil Litigation Updates in COVID-19 Litigation – Where Do We Stand One Year Later?* Marshall Dennehey Webinar, May, 2021
- *Ransomware Attacks: An Ongoing Global Threat*, ILG Virtual Conference, March 25, 2021
- *Cyber Security & Construction*, National Association of Women in Construction, November 2020
- *Speaking Up on Silent Cyber*, A.M. Best Webinar Panelist, May 2020
- *Emerging Global Cyber Ransom Threats Require A Strategic Response From The C-*

Suite, A.M. Best Insurance Law Podcast, July 2018

- *Cyber Claims: What to Do?*, National Conference of Insurance Guaranty Funds, November 2017
- *Data Breaches Come in All Sizes*, Beacon Technologies, April 26, 2017
- *Cyber: Global Perspectives*, Insurance Law Global, International Insurance Defence Network Conference, March 2017
- *Cyber Security for the C Suite*, panelist, SIM, February 7, 2017
- *Ethical and Statutory Concerns for Law Firms*, webinar panelist, Bloomberg & CNA Insurance, November 2, 2016
- *Cybersecurity for the C Suite*, panelist, Tatum, October 26, 2016
- *Cybersecurity: Emerging Trends and the Current Regulatory Environment for Independent Financial Advisors and Independent Financial Services Firm*, Financial Services Institute (FSI) webinar, September 22, 2016
- *The Changing Landscape of Cyber Liability Litigation*, ACI's 13th Advanced Forum on Cyber & Data Risk Insurance, July 29, 2016
- *Attorney Client Privilege Issues Arising out of Data Breaches, Breach Responses, and Subsequent Third Party Litigation*, ACI Data Breach & Privacy Litigation and Enforcement Conference, March 18, 2016
- *Developments and Emerging Trends in the Legal and Insurance Areas of Cybersecurity*, Travelers Insurance, February 2016
- *A Legislative Update From the Front Lines*, DRI Data Breach and Privacy Law Conference, November 4, 2015
- *Litigation Roundup Including Recent Supreme Court Developments on Article III Standing, Injury, Damages (Spokeo v. Robins), Class Actions, and Data Breach Litigation*, ACI's 17th Advanced Global Legal & Compliance Forum on Cyber Security & Data Privacy and Protection, October 5, 2015
- *Cyber Liability Insurance: New Risks & Emerging Trends*, Insurance Brokers' Association of the State of New York (IBANY), September 16, 2015
- *Liability Concerns for Architects, Engineers and Construction Professionals: Pennsylvania Intellectual Property Overview*, Marshall Dennehey Client Seminar, July 2015
- *Online Ethics: Blawgs, Directory Listings, Q & A Forums & Social Media Use and Confidentiality and Data Security*, National Business Institute, April 2015
- *Cyber Hackers Are Everywhere! Are You Prepared?* Philly I-Day, April 9, 2015
- *Current Trends in Data Breach First and Third-Party Claims and Litigation*, American Conference Institute's Cyber & Data Risk Insurance conference, March 24, 2015
- *Hot Topics in Employment*, Assurex Loss Control & Claims Conference, October 22, 2014
- *Cyber Technology, Data Breaches and Related E&O Trends, Claims and Coverage*, moderator and speaker, 8th Annual ExecuSummit E&O Insurance Conference, June 2014
- *Cyber Liability Exposures, Every Business Has Them*, Panelist, PLUS Mid-Atlantic Chapter Seminar, May 2014
- *Hot Topics in Employment*, Marshall Dennehey / AIG Seminar, Philadelphia, PA, October 10, 2013
- *Employment Liability in the Cyber Age*, Marshall Dennehey / AIG Employment Seminar, Pittsburgh, PA, May 2, 2013
- *Cyber Liability Claims, Coverage Issues*, panel speaker, 2nd Annual National Cyber Liabilities Insurance ExecuSummit, 2013
- *Data Privacy Risk: Red Flags in Higher Education*, ASFAA Annual Conference, 2012

Published Works

- "Opportunity Knocks: Modern Trends With Business Email Compromise in a Changing Cyber World," *New Jersey Law Journal*, November 27, 2024
- "Cybersecurity Threats: A Year in Review and a Look Ahead," *The Legal Intelligencer*, December 19, 2023.
- "Kaseya Data Breach Is Another Signal to Cyber Underwriters About the Dangers of Ransomware Attacks," *Defense Digest*, Vol. 27, No. 4, September 2021
- "Cyber Threats: Why the Construction Industry Could be the Next Big Target," *The Legal Intelligencer*, Construction Law Supplement, August 12, 2021
- "Kaseya Data Breach is Another Signal to Cyber Underwriters about the Dangers of Ransomware Attacks," *PLUS Blog*, July 19, 2021
- "Insurance Law Global: Emerging Global Cyber Ransom Threats Require a Strategic Response From the C-Suite - Episode #143," *Defense Digest*, December 2018, Vol. 24, No. 4
- "Weightmans LLP & Insurance Day Cyber Risk Survey Report," remarks on page 12. November 2015
- "The Impact of EU Rulings on the Cyber Landscape," *Global Reinsurance*, October 14, 2015
- "Are Hackers Secretly Stealing Your Practice?" *The Legal Intelligencer*, Cybersecurity Supplement (page 8), June 23, 2015
- "New Year's Resolutions? For Financial Firms and Advisors, Cybersecurity Should Top the List," *Aon Advisor Solutions* newsletter, Winter 2015
- "Financial Advisor Forecast: Stormy, With Scattered Data Breaches," *Financial Advisor*, June 23, 2014
- "How to Minimize the Threat of the Dreaded Data Breach," *Catalyst*, Winter 2013/2014, publication of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry
- "How to Avoid Liability for Comments Posted on Your Company's Website," *Mondaq.com*, 2012 and *AgentsofAmerica.com*, 2012
- "In A Copyright Infringement Action, a Secondarily Liable Defendant Is Only Responsible For One Statutory Damage Award," *Pennsylvania Bar Association Intellectual Property Newsletter*, 2011
- "Starbucks v. Charbucks: Substantial Similarity Is Not Required To Prove Dilution By Blurring," *Intellectual Property Law Newsletter*, Pennsylvania Bar Association, Summer, 2010

Media Commentary

- "The Cost of Cybersecurity: Risks and Responses on the Rise," *The Legal Intelligencer*, February 17, 2015

Significant Representative Matters

- Prevailed on a Motion to Dismiss in a data breach class action in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Sixteen named plaintiffs brought claims alleging that a hacker had accessed the personal information of over 1,000,000 individuals nationwide. We defended the debt collection company whose computer servers were compromised. Plaintiffs asserted broad and novel legal theories, including negligent failure to protect data, breach of implied contract, invasion of privacy, negligence per se, and violations of various state consumer protection laws. We successfully contested these claims, resulting in the dismissal of eight plaintiffs for lack of standing and 15 of the 17

asserted causes of action being dismissed.

- Successfully represented and assisted a large commercial payment card processing company in a data breach notice that affected over 2 million customers.
- Successfully defended and resolved a multimillion dollar trademark and dilution lawsuit in the 9th Circuit that included obtaining dismissal of the dilution claim.
- Obtained complete denial of a temporary and permanent injunction motion after a weeklong injunction hearing in a trademark dispute over a well known East Coast antique show brand.
- Successfully resolved several copyright infringement claims by an international music recording association against various entertainment venues.
- Obtained dismissal of all claims against a website developer on the first day of trial in a matter where plaintiff alleged significant lost profits after a new customer ordering platform was installed for plaintiff's website.
- Successfully resolved a significant copyright infringement claim by the heirs of a famous European author against a theater where plaintiff attempted to enjoin national theater production and claim past and future profits.
- Defeated vicarious liability claims for trademark infringement by luxury handbag manufacturer against the owner of a large retail shopping center. All claims were dismissed after a summary judgment motion was filed.
- Obtained voluntary dismissal of trade secret and theft of confidential information matter where the initial demand was over \$300,000 by demonstrating that no trade secrets existed in the plaintiff's manufacturing process.
- Successfully obtained summary judgment in an architectural copyright infringement action by demonstrating that client did not infringe on the plaintiff's drawings for a country club.
- Successfully defended international chemical company in temporary and permanent injunction hearings regarding stolen trade secrets and hiring of former plant manager.

Representative Cases

- *Longenecker-Wells v. Benecard Services*, No. 15-3538, 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 15696 (3d Cir. Aug. 25, 2016).
- *Gianacopoulos v. Glen Oak Country Club*, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 7710 (M.D. Pa. 2007)
- *Luszczynski v. Bradley*, 729 A.2d 83 (Superior 1999)

Thought Leadership

June 30, 2026

Vendor Cyber Attack Compromises PII of More Than 3 Million Hunting and Fishing License Holders in Texas

February 19, 2026

Identity Theft Resource Center Report Reveals Rising Data Breaches Despite Drop in Mega Breaches

December 1, 2025

Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2025 - Episode 2 - Beyond the Breach:

Remediation vs. Forensic Investigation

June 1, 2025

Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2025 Season 3 Episode 1

December 2, 2024

Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2024 Season 2 Episode 3

November 27, 2024

Opportunity Knocks: Modern Trends with Business Email Compromise in a Changing Cyber World

July 1, 2024

Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2024 Season 2 Episode 2

February 27, 2024

Managing Cybersecurity Threats in 2024 Season 2 Episode 1

December 19, 2023

Cybersecurity Threats: A Year in Review and a Look Ahead

September 15, 2023

The MGM Data Breach: Hackers Leverage LinkedIn Data to Pull Off Sophisticated Social Engineering Attack

September 14, 2023

Managing Cyber Security Threats in 2023. Episode 3: Mid-Year Data Breach Trends

April 6, 2023

Managing Cyber Security Threats in 2023. Episode 2: The Current State of Ransomware Attacks in 2023

March 1, 2023

Managing Cyber Security Threats in 2023. Episode 1: Cryptojacking - New Risks For Carriers and Their Insureds

July 26, 2022

Third Party Business Associate Breaches Are Still a Major Concern for Health Care Providers

January 27, 2022

2022 Cyber Forecast: Ever-Increasing Data Breaches and Ransomware Attacks