



ONDROVIC & PLATEK

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Firm Overview

Ondrovic & Platek, PLLC is an experienced and respected firm whose attorneys have earned a reputation for effectively and efficiently litigating complex cases from inception to trial.


Our firm has earned a reputation as a firm who will take cases to verdict, if warranted, and has trial attorneys who regularly take verdicts in counties throughout the State of New York and Connecticut.


Our attorneys consistently provide high caliber representation to insurance companies and their insureds, to corporations, municipalities and individuals throughout New York State. Our attorneys have decades of experience representing insurance companies and their insureds, to corporations, municipalities and individuals throughout New York State.

Ondrovic & Platek, PLLC has long standing relationships with its clients. We represent clients in construction accident cases, premises liability, motor vehicle and trucking accidents, Dram Shop, Negligent Security, Dog Bite, products liability, professional liability, municipal liability, wrongful death, and property damage cases.

In any situation, we pride ourselves in working with our clients to formulate an early strategy and obtain the best outcome, whether that be through dismissal by way of motion practice, ADR, or trial. We are continuously researching and analyzing the ever-evolving law that applies to the cases we handle, which enables us to develop an effective strategy early in the process.

We represent clients in courts throughout New York State from our offices in White Plains and Albany. Our attorneys are admitted to practice in New York and Connecticut and Federal Courts of both states.

 **914-821-5300**

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Practice Areas

The firm has decades of collective experience defending cases in state and federal courts throughout New York and Connecticut. Its attorneys have tried cases from Suffolk County to Erie County in New York and throughout the State of Connecticut. The claims have varied from common-law negligence claims, statutory claims, contractual as well as employment disputes. The subject matters we have successfully litigated include:

- Labor Law and Construction Accidents
- Product Liability Claims
- Negligent Security/Dram Shop Claims
- Municipal Liability Claims
- Premises Liability
- Professional Liability
- Motor Vehicle Accidents, No Fault Litigation SUM arbitration
- Declaratory Judgment Actions
- Property Damage Claims

Attorneys



Karen A. Ondrovic, Esq.
FOUNDING PARTNER



Jeremy D. Platek, Esq.
FOUNDING PARTNER



Daniel O'Neill, Esq.
SENIOR COUNSEL

Esq.
EL



Robert M. Lefland, Esq.
SENIOR COUNSEL



Christopher Martorello, Esq.
ASSOCIATE

Karen A. Ondrovic, Esq.



Karen A. Ondrovic, Esq.
FOUNDING PARTNER

Karen is a seasoned attorney with over 30 years of experience in the insurance defense industry. She has developed strong client relationships and trust through her passionate commitment to the defense of her clients. She believes that the key to the successful defense of a client is the development of a litigation strategy that allows her clients and their insurers to posture the case for success, whether that success be the result of motion practice, a negotiated settlement or trial.

Bio

Karen has been handling insurance defense matters since her admission to the bar in 1994. She has handled all aspects of civil litigation including pleadings, discovery, motion practice, mediations, arbitrations, trials and appeals. Her primary areas of practice include Construction accidents, Premises Liability, Products Liability, Automobile accidents, Civil Rights actions, Declaratory Judgment Actions, Municipal Liability and Professional Liability.

Karen represents insurers, private clients, corporations, municipalities and third-party administrators in complex tort litigation. In her defense of Labor Law cases, she represents property owners, general contractors and subcontractors. She is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell and manages civil litigation matters both in New York and Connecticut and has successfully argued cases in the First, Second and Third Departments as well as the appellate courts in Connecticut.

Karen is married to Robert Ondrovic, who currently serves as a Supreme Court Justice in the 9th Judicial District. They have three children, Paige, Lauren and Ryan. Karen enjoys playing soccer, biking, travel and cooking.

Education

Karen graduated magna cum laude from Connecticut College where she earned accolades as a student athlete. She was a member of the intercollegiate soccer and swim teams and served as captain of the women's swim team. She graduated with distinction in her major field of history, was selected as a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and was selected to be a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society. She earned her law degree, with honors, from Pace University School of Law where she served as Executive Editor of the Pace Law Review.

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Jeremy D. Platek, Esq.



Jeremy D. Platek, Esq.
FOUNDING PARTNER

Jeremy began his law career at Skadden Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom in their anti-trust department, litigating FTC and DOJ merger challenges. Focusing on his passion for litigation, he went to Coudert Brothers to work on multi-state and international litigations and arbitrations. He represented large multi-national corporations before the government and in private litigation in various subject matters from employment law to products liability. Since then, he has practiced for over 20 as a trial lawyer in the Civil Defense area. He uses the writing, research and presentation skills honed in the early part of his career to address complex issues and filter them down to their simplest essence, whether they are being presented to a Judge or Appellate Panel in a Motion or Brief, or in front of a jury during closing argument.

Bio

He has represented large and small property owners, construction managers, general contractors, contractors, National Fraternities and local fraternal chapters, restaurants/bars and nightclubs, shopping malls, insurers, professionals and employers and has tried to verdict dozens of cases throughout New York City, Long Island, and various other counties in New York and Connecticut as well as the Federal Courts in both states. The trials involved a wide range of subject matter including negligent security, products liability, general negligence, premises liability, motor vehicle accidents, property damage, insurance coverage, breach of fiduciary duty, DRAM Shop violations, and construction accidents.

At work, he abides by two simple principles. First, providing high quality and persuasive work-product in the most efficient way possible. Second, and equally important, is to make a thorough and early analysis of the liability risks in the matter so that the client can make informed decisions as litigation progresses.

Outside of work, he is an avid cyclist and a lover of the outdoors and travel. He and Lisa, his wife of thirty years, take great pride in their two sons, Zack and Sam.

Awards/Distinctions

Benjamin N. Cardozo, Law School, 1991, Magna Cum Laude
Law Review
Thurgood J. Marshall Award for Justice

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Office
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Daniel O'Neill, Esq.



Daniel O'Neill, Esq.
ASSOCIATE

Throughout his legal career, Dan has been active in the public interest. From 2002 through 2008, he served as the Mayor of the Village of Buchanan, New York. Since 2016, Dan has served as the Associate Village Justice of Buchanan.

Bio

Dan O'Neill began his legal career as the Deputy Counsel to the New York State Commission for the Study of Youth Crime and Juvenile Justice. He then worked at the medical malpractice defense firm Podlofsky, Orange, Kitt & Kolenovsky in Manhattan, defending physicians, oral surgeons, dentists, podiatrists, and chiropractors against malpractice claims.

From 2001 until 2021, Dan worked at Boeggeman, George, Hodges & Corde specializing in insurance defense. Dan has focused on the defense of individuals, corporations and municipalities in cases involving personal injury, Labor Law, property damage, civil rights and insurance coverage matters. He has represented insurance companies in under- and un-insured motorist claims, taking dozens of cases to arbitration.

Dan has handled thousands of cases from inception through completion. Over Dan's career, he has conducted and defended clients at thousands of depositions, hearings and Examinations Under Oath.

Throughout his legal career, Dan has been active in the public interest. From 2002 through 2008, he served as the Mayor of the Village of Buchanan, New York. Since 2016, Dan has served as the Associate Village Justice of Buchanan.

From 1996-2002 and 2008-2015, Dan was the Chairman of the Buchanan Democratic Committee. When living in Woodside, Queens, he was the President of the Robert F. Kennedy Reform Democratic Club. Dan is married to Michele O'Neill, an educator and former Chair of the Buchanan Planning Board. Michele and Dan have two adult children.

Distinctions

Associate Village Justice Of Buchanan

Former Mayor of Buchanan

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Office
White Plains, NY

Robert M. Lefland , Esq.



Robert M. Lefland , Esq.
SENIOR COUNSEL

Robert M. Lefland is a seasoned trial and litigation attorney with over 30 years of experience in the insurance defense industry. Consistent and informative communication is a key to both an advantageous attorney-client relationship as well as a successful outcome to the case. It is his practice to advise the carrier and the insured at every step in the litigation practice. Only through such interactions can the carrier as well as the insured understand and appreciate what is happening and thus bring the case to a satisfactory conclusion.

Bio

Robert M. Lefland began practicing in lower Manhattan and has litigated cases throughout New York State, primarily in the Hudson Valley.

He has been handling insurance defense matters throughout his career. He has been involved in all aspects of civil litigation including pleadings, discovery, examinations before trial, motion practice, mediations, arbitrations, trials and appeals. His primary areas of practice include Labor Law §240 construction accidents, premises liability, automobile accidents, civil rights §1983 actions, declaratory judgment actions, municipal liability and professional liability.

Bob has tried cases in all five boroughs as well as on Long Island and in the counties north of New York City. He has drafted and argued appeals in the First, Second and Third Departments of the Appellate Division. He has argued two cases in the highest court, the Court of Appeals. He has also tried cases in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. He has been published in the New York Law Journal and has had verdicts reported in the New York Jury Reporter.

He has also worked, for a limited period of time, on the plaintiffs' side of the personal injury bar. This has given him insight into how the plaintiffs' bar seeks to litigate its cases and he applies that knowledge to the defense side.

Bob resides in Rockland county with his wife. His children and grandchildren keep him grounded and busy.

Education

Mr. Lefland graduated from Brooklyn College with a BA degree in American History and obtained his JD from Delaware Law School where he was an editor of the Law Journal.

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Office
White Plains, NY

Christopher Martorello, Esq.



Christopher Martorello, Esq.
ASSOCIATE

Christopher Martorello joined Ondrovic & Platek, PLLC in August 2022, having graduated from the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University with an Advanced Certificate in Health Law and Policy in May 2022. While a student at Pace, Chris was named to the Dean’s List and served as a Member of the Pace Law Review. Upon his admission to the bar, Chris joined the firm as an Associate.

Bio

Prior to his employment at the firm, Chris had the honor of working as an Extern for the Honorable Vincent Briccetti, a Federal Judge, Southern District of New York. He worked closely with the law clerks performing legal research and drafting opinions. Chris also worked as a legal intern with a personal injury law firm where he assisted with the drafting of court documents.

Since his admission to the bar, Chris has been handling cases from pleadings through depositions, motions and appeals. Chris has successfully handled conferences, depositions, oral arguments, and court conferences. He has drafted, and won, summary judgment motions and continues to observe and learn from the seasoned group of attorneys at our firm. Chris’ primary practice areas are premises liability, automobile accidents and construction accidents.

Chris lives in Stamford, Connecticut with his fiancé, Julia, and their dog Groot.

Education

Chris graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA in May 2019 with a degree in History. While at Franklin and Marshall, he was a member of its Division 1 Wrestling team. Chris graduated cum laude from the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University in May 2022.

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