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## VICTOR ABRAHAM (ABE) DELNORE



### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Mr. Delnore is a litigation attorney concentrating on complex civil cases, with a particular focus on insurance coverage. Mr. Delnore's expertise in insurance coverage is broad and includes a variety of first- and third-party coverages including property, commercial general liability, products & completed operations, environmental, title, professional liability, cyber risk, directors & officers, and employers' liability. He has represented a variety of clients ranging from individuals and small businesses to Dow 30 corporations, in industries including construction, manufacturing, oil & gas production, midstream, hospitality, financial services, and storage. He has been responsible for matters ranging in size from thousands to billions of dollars.

Mr. Delnore has extensive experience in all aspects of state and federal civil litigation, from pre-complaint strategy through discovery and motion practice to settlement and collection. He has appeared in state and federal trial and appellate courtrooms across Pennsylvania. He also has significant experience in various forms of nonjudicial dispute resolution such as arbitration, mediation, and direct negotiation. In addition, he has managed many electronic discovery projects, always prioritizing efficiency and value while complying with legal and professional standards.

Apart from his civil litigation work, Mr. Delnore has maintained an active pro bono practice representing underserved clients including domestic violence victims, incarcerated persons, and juvenile offenders.

### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- Associate with Dingess, Foster, Luciana, Davidson & Chleboski LLP, October 2017 – Present
- Associate with K&L Gates, LLP, January 2011 – October 2017

**PROFESSIONAL/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS**

- Allegheny County Bar Association
- Member, Pittsburgh Fulton Parent Teacher Organization Executive Committee, Excellence for All Representative
- Fluent French

**COURT ADMISSIONS**

- United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

**BAR MEMBERSHIP**

Pennsylvania

**EDUCATION**

J.D., University of Alabama School of Law, 2010 (Summa Cum Laude; Executive Editor, Alabama Law Review)

École Normale Supérieure, Pensionnaire étranger (exchange fellow) September 2001 – June 2002

Master of Arts, History, University of Virginia, 2000

Bachelor of Arts, College of William & Mary, 1997

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## REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

- Member of Commercial Disputes and Energy practice groups, with substantial work in Insurance Coverage
- Substantial experience in civil litigation at the trial and appellate levels from precomplaint strategy through discovery to trial preparation and settlement
- Substantial experience in presentation of commercial insurance claims, negotiation and exchange of information with insurers, and transition to litigation or arbitration
- Writing experience includes drafting pleadings, dispositive and other motions, briefs of various lengths and formats, settlement agreements, pretrial statements and other trial materials, and mediation statements
- Argument of motions, petitions, and appellate cases and sole attendance of conferences and meetings in state and federal court
- Deposition experience includes preparing, taking, and defending fact and expert witness depositions
- ADR experience includes London arbitrations, mediations, early neutral evaluations, and direct negotiations
- Extensive experience in electronic discovery with clients and counterparties of varying sizes and levels of sophistication
- Routinely manage work of associates, paralegals, clerks, secretaries, and vendors
- Representative billable cases and engagements:
  - ***ACE American Insurance Co. v. Danisco USA, Inc.***, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri (insurance coverage)--conducted extensive motion practice including successful brief in opposition to summary judgment; took and defended fact and expert witness depositions
  - ***Zimmermann v. Atlas America, LLC***, Washington County (Pennsylvania) Court of Common Pleas (energy/environmental contamination)--conducted extensive motion practice; attended mediation and settlement negotiations; oversaw trial preparation

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- **Burkett v. EXCO Resources (PA) LLC**, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania (energy/lease dispute)--conducted extensive motion practice including successful summary judgment brief
  - **Clark v. Pennsylvania General Energy, L.L.C. and McCaulley v. Pennsylvania General Energy, L.L.C.**, Lycoming County (Pennsylvania) Court of Common Pleas (energy/title dispute)--drafted all filings; created chain of title in conjunction with client's land department; took depositions; obtained voluntary dismissal of complaints after plaintiffs' claims were shown to lack merit
  - **Grettlar v. Lakeside NS II, LLC**, Allegheny County (Pennsylvania) Court of Common Pleas (enforcement of settlement agreement)--complete handling of litigation to enforce contract between commercial tenant and landlord, including successful motion to compel testimony from opposing party's prior counsel
  - **Trane US, Inc. v. Allstate Insurance Co., Inc.**, La Crosse County (Wisconsin) Circuit Court (insurance coverage)--drafted discovery requests and responses and summary judgment filings
  - Represented **Dow 30 manufacturing corporation** in three confidential insurance coverage and valuation arbitrations seated in Delaware and London
  - Regularly represent employees of **Bank of America, N.A.** during depositions in contested foreclosures, including presentation of discovery motions before Special Motions Judge, Allegheny County (Pennsylvania) Court of Common Pleas
  - Regularly represent **pipeline/midstream companies** in resolution of title and land use issues
  - Representative *pro bono* cases and engagements:
    - Represented approximately 20 **domestic abuse plaintiffs** in Protection From Abuse Act proceedings in Family Division, Allegheny County (Pennsylvania) Court of Common Pleas 2011-15
    - Regularly represent **incarcerated civil-rights** plaintiffs in Section 1983 cases in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania in cases arising out of abuse during arrest or incarceration
  - Represent Pennsylvania **inmates** in *habeas corpus* challenges
    - Led office's engagement in Pennsylvania juvenile life without parole (JLWOP) resentencings 2016-17, encompassing 7 resentencing clients and 2 further appeals clients

- Lead resentencing counsel in 5 cases across 3 counties (3 hearings conducted, all resulting in immediate parole eligibility)
- Argued appeal in Commonwealth v. Seskey (issue: whether a life maximum is required in JLWOP resentencings)
- Active participant in local and Pennsylvania JLWOP defense community