



Mazanec, Raskin & Ryder Co., L.P.A.

Attorneys and Counsellors at Law



George V. Pilat

PARTNER

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Business & Commercial Law

Insurance Agents & Brokers

Directors & Officers Liability

Insurance Coverage & Bad Faith

Employment & Labor Law

Professional Liability & Licensing

Cleveland Office

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EDUCATION

- J. D., 1987, Case Western Reserve University School of Law
- B.A., 1984, Ohio Wesleyan University

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

Mr. Pilat focuses his practice on business and commercial law, and insurance defense. He is Chair of the firm's newly expanded Business & Commercial Law Practice Group and Co-Chair of the firm's re-organized and expanded Insurance Agents & Brokers Practice Group. His experience and unique blend of skills includes significant work handling agent errors & omissions (E&O) coverage and litigation, coverage analysis, corporate compliance, commercial transactions, and employment litigation and counseling. He represents national and regional insurance agencies, agents/brokers, insurers, local and regional businesses, and Fortune 500 clients in both state and federal courts, and administrative proceedings.

In addition to insurance coverage and defense, George also has considerable experience with business matters concerning buy-sell agreements, mergers, sales, and acquisitions of agencies and businesses, real estate leases, business loans and secured transactions, drafting purchase agreements, rights of first refusal and account ownership agreements, producer/solicitor agreements, non-solicitation and confidentiality agreements, separation of partners, agents, and clusters, disputes with captive carriers and producers, evaluating and preparing procedure and employment manuals, and advising on compliance issues under state insurance law.

He has also been very active with the Insurance Board of Northern Ohio (IBNO) since its inception in 2001. His involvement has included serving as general counsel, project management on both local Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter's (CPCU) and Northeast Ohio Health Underwriters Association's (NEOHUA) annual conventions, and working alongside the Professional Insurance Agents (PIA) national and state offices on specific projects and consulting on issues for member agents.

Prior to joining MRR in 2013, George handled insurance matters for agents and insurers, commercial litigation, and business transactions at a small firm in Downtown Cleveland.



- *Pro Hac Vice* admission to U.S. District Courts in California, Delaware, Florida, Michigan, New York, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wisconsin



PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
 - Insurance Law Section
- Insurance Board of Northern Ohio (IBNO)
 - I-Day Convention and Education Committees
- Solon Chamber of Commerce (Board of Directors 2016-present)
- Great Lakes Funding Network

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Recognized by Best Lawyers for Insurance Law since 2018
- “Friend of the Insurance Industry” – Insurance Board of Northern Ohio (2013)
- Approved by the Ohio Department of Insurance as a provider of Continuing Education (CE) programs with MRR

PRESENTATIONS

- “Agent/Broker Liability” – Anatomy of a Complex Professional Liability Claim - Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (2013)
- “Winning Strategies for Coverage Litigation” – Panelist - Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (2013)
- “An In Depth Look at Property Insurance” – Scary Coverage Concepts - Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (2013)
- “E&O Traps, or Marketing Opportunities, or Both?” – Cleveland Chapter of CPCU Society (2014)
- “Professional Excellence – Let’s Talk Ethics and E&O” – IBNO I-Day Convention (2014)
- “Structuring an Effective Corporate Risk Management Plan” – Panelist - Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (2014)
- “What’s Fair When It Comes To Claims? – An In Depth Look At Ohio’s Unfair Property Casualty Claims Settlement Practices Act” – IBNO (2014)
- “Can Common E&O Traps be Marketing Opportunities” – IBNO (2016)
- “Understanding and Interpreting the 'Insured Contract' Definition Under a CGL Policy” – Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (2016)

PUBLICATIONS

- “Legal Pitfalls of Non-Competition and Non-Solicitation Agreements” – *Crain’s Cleveland Business News*, Legal Guidebook (2014)
- “Can You Keep A Secret”: What Businesses Need to Know About Ohio’s Uniform Trade Secrets Act (2015)