



## Counsel

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### Services

Life Sciences > Litigation > Product Liability and Mass Torts >

Michelle Hart Yeary is a litigator with extensive experience in product liability litigation, including the defense of mass torts in federal multidistrict litigation and coordinated state court proceedings where she has served as coordinating, regional, and defense liaison counsel. She also has considerable experience defending against claims seeking punitive damages, including working with punitive damages experts to develop trial testimony and strategy.

Ms. Yeary's mass tort experience includes the representation of Merck & Co. in the litigation related to a painkiller, notably managing the consolidation of thousands of personal injury cases in New Jersey, including coordination of simultaneous discovery in 250 cases, as well as serving as lead counsel to the court on case management issues. Ms. Yeary continues to defend pharmaceutical manufacturers as local and liaison counsel, including representing Pfizer, Inc. in both its hormone therapy and Reglan® litigation in state and federal court.

Over her career, Ms. Yeary has handled all aspects of litigation strategy for complex mass torts involving a variety of products such as serving as national counsel for a medical device manufacturer in the In re Orthopedic Bone Screw Products liability litigation and as counsel for other medical device manufacturers, including manufacturers of stents, guidewires, latex gloves, and electrosurgical equipment, in defense of product liability claims. She also served as regional counsel and national discovery counsel for manufacturers of automobile industry products in cases involving serious personal injuries.

## EDUCATION

- Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, B.A., 1992, with Honors
- Rutgers School of Law - Camden, J.D., 1995, with Honors, State Constitutional Law Editor for the *Rutgers Law Journal*

## ADMISSIONS

- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania
- Supreme Court of Pennsylvania
- United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- United States District Court for the District of New Jersey
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- **Drug and Device Defense: Emerging Litigation and Regulatory Developments** — HB Litigation Conferences, Philadelphia (October 20, 2015)
- **Off Label Marketing in the Post Caronia World** — 2015 Life Sciences Legal Summit presented by the American Bar Association, South San Francisco, CA (March 4, 2015)
- **Drug and Device Defense** — A conference presented by HB Litigation, Philadelphia, PA (October 22, 2014)

Moderator, "Drug and Device Defense" conference analyzed litigation involving sales representatives, recent marketing trends in the drug and medical device industry, and staying current on FDA issues.