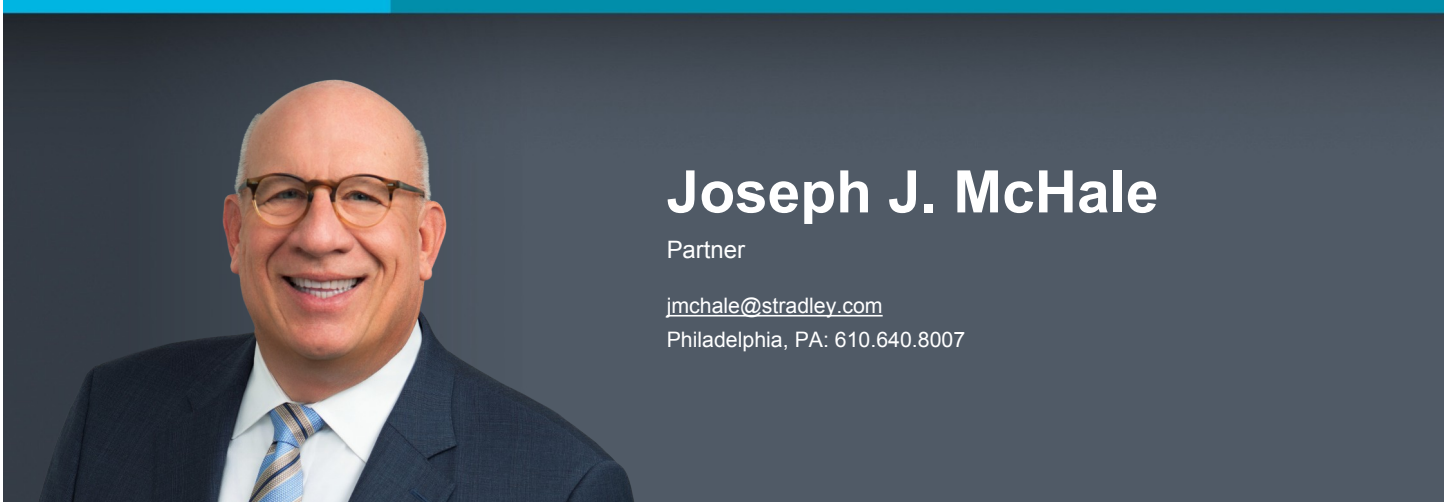




Joseph J. McHale

Partner

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A nationally recognized trial lawyer, Joseph McHale has handled the defense of widely publicized class action and mass tort lawsuits filed in state and federal courts across the United States. Joe has served as lead counsel in multidistrict litigation on behalf of schools, behavioral health facilities, juvenile detention centers and other related institutions facing claims of abuse, harassment and misconduct.

Joe has handled a combined thousand cases stemming out of a nationwide putative class action facing one of the largest behavioral healthcare organizations in the United States and mass tort suits facing a now-defunct residential facility for adjudicated youth, which was the nation's oldest all-boys reformatory school. The matters involve claims by hundreds of plaintiffs related to physical and sexual abuse/harassment and institutional misconduct.

Appearing before federal and state courts, arbitral tribunals and state agencies, Joe also defends against claims related to medical malpractice, healthcare matters, product liability, commercial issues, personal injury and insurance.

Joe also served as trial co-counsel in obtaining a defense verdict on behalf of a global pharmaceutical and biotechnology company in a mass tort involving the first phenylpropanolamine (PPA) case tried in Pennsylvania.

As a registered pharmacist, clients turn to Joe for his unique perspective and insight into the life sciences industry. His unique blend of practice in both pharmacy and law has also made him a sought-after faculty member for educational programs. He had lectured frequently for the Pharmacy Learning Network, a digital resource for pharmacy professionals. Joe also previously served as an adjunct faculty member at the former University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, where he taught pharmacy law for more than 25 years.

Featured Representative Matters

- Represents one of the largest behavioral healthcare organizations in the United States as lead counsel in a putative nationwide class action alleging physical and sexual abuse/harassment and institutional misconduct.
- Served as lead liaison in the defense of mass tort lawsuits facing the now-defunct residential facility for adjudicated youth, which was the nation's oldest all-boys reformatory school, involving claims of physical and emotional abuse and violation

Services

- Complex Commercial & Class Action Litigation
- Products Liability & Mass Tort Defense
- Government Enforcement, Investigations & Litigation
- Insurance & Reinsurance
- Litigation
- White Collar Criminal Defense
- Trial Practice

Education

- Widener University School of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*)
- Saint Joseph's University (M.S.)
- Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science (B.S.)

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- New York

of education rights.

- Served as trial co-counsel in obtaining a defense verdict on behalf of a global pharmaceutical and biotechnology company in a mass tort involving the first phenylpropanolamine (PPA) case tried in Pennsylvania.
- Represented the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary with a redevelopment project in Stone Harbor, New Jersey.
- Defended a car sharing agency in a product liability claim; while his co-defendant suffered a \$16 million plus verdict, a defense verdict was obtained for the client.
- Obtained a defense verdict in a premises liability claim against a school in a matter where the plaintiff suffered debilitating injuries to her hand and requested over \$1 million to settle the matter.
- Defended a religious institution in a variety of different matters that resulted in numerous defense verdicts.
- Defended numerous medical malpractice claims for health systems and practitioners.
- Defended a high school basketball coach against a student who claimed she was “mentally abused” by him; a defense verdict was returned after trial.
- Obtained a dismissal for a local hospice at trial against claims from a volunteer who was severely injured after falling off a ladder while working at the hospice.
- Defended a crane operator and distributor in a case where a worker was severely injured when a crane dropped two tons of steel on him; a defense verdict was returned in less than one hour.
- Defended a governmental agency in a number of cases of first impression involving the Social Security Act as it relates to reimbursement rates paid to pharmacists, which included obtaining favorable judgments for the agency at the trial and appellate stages.
- Obtained a defense verdict for the largest manufacturer of spiral staircases in the United States in a product liability matter.
- Defended a construction company in a product liability/negligence action that resulted in a defense verdict, despite the plaintiff’s demand in excess of \$3 million.

- U.S. Supreme Court
- Pennsylvania Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Community Impact

Joe is former chairman of the Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation board and is a former board member of Eagles Fly for Leukemia.

Memberships

- Fellow, American Society for Pharmacy Law
- Member, Defense Research Institute
- Member, Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Former Board Chairman, Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation
- Former Board Chairman, Eagles Fly for Leukemia

Recognitions

- *The Best Lawyers in America* (Product Liability Litigation – Defendants) (2018-26)
- *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* (2026)

Featured Speaking Engagements

- Presenter, “Physical and Sexual Abuse Litigation in PA – From the Plaintiff and the

Defendant,” Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association

- Presenter, “Updates in Pharmacy Law,” University of the Sciences’ Philadelphia College of Pharmacy’s 38th Annual Symposium on Advances in Pharmacy Practice
- Panelist, “Pharmacy Malpractice,” Developments in Pharmacy Law Seminar

Clerkships

- Clerkship to Justice Joseph Walsh of the Delaware Supreme Court.

Experience

Eleventh Circuit Affirms Trademark Ruling for Nutritional Products Company

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit affirmed a lower court’s decision on behalf of Stradley Ronon client Nutrition Resource Services, Inc. d/b/a JBN – Just Be Natural in a trademark infringement matter.

JBN manufactures and sells energy drinks and powders under various brand names, including “KRANK’D,” which obtained a trademark registration in 2006. A competitor began selling a similar product under the brand name “KRANK3D” and proceeded to market the product to the same consumers as JBN’s product.

Stradley Ronon filed preliminary injunction motion papers and argued the motion at an emergency hearing in February 2024. A Georgia federal court granted the injunction, and a three-judge panel affirmed the lower court’s ruling.

Redevelopment Project in Stone Harbor

Stradley Ronon represented the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) with a redevelopment project in Stone Harbor, New Jersey. A 250-bed retreat house with 4.5 acres of beachfront views owned by IHM was demolished, and a new retreat house was constructed on a smaller lot allowing for the creation of 13 beach-block residential lots and a new street within the boundary of the original property. The sale of the high-profile lots provided funding for demolishing the existing building, creating a new retreat house and establishing an endowment to support the future needs of the congregation.

The Stradley Ronon team navigated the complex town zoning board requirements, received CAFRA permitting from the state Department of Environmental Protection, negotiated with the contractor, potential developers and residential lot buyers and resolved a dispute with the Borough of Stone Harbor regarding the developability of land adjacent to dunes.