



Maxx M. Johnson

Associate

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Maxx Johnson is a client-focused and results-driven litigator defending federal and state complex commercial cases throughout New York and New Jersey. Maxx is well-versed in handling general liability and health insurance matters from inception to trial.

Before joining Stradley Ronon, Maxx practiced at an Am Law 100 firm in New York City, where he handled insurance-related professional malpractice matters before federal, state and appellate courts. Maxx also worked at a global firm at its New York City headquarters for years. Maxx consistently obtained favorable results for his clients despite often dealing with difficult facts and circumstances. Maxx has settled multiple high-exposure matters, some with substantiated damages exceeding seven figures, with excellent results for his clients. Maxx has had additional success through motion practice, arbitration, mediation and trial.

Prior to entering private practice, Maxx was a judicial clerk for Judge J. Randall Corman of the Middlesex County, New Jersey, Superior Court. While clerking, Maxx managed an extensive civil caseload docket and drafted opinions and hundreds of bench memos. Maxx also assisted hundreds of Middlesex County tenants facing the eviction process.

During law school, Maxx served as a board member for the mock trial team and as comments editor and associate editor of the *Seton Hall Circuit Review*. Maxx was also the first-ever recipient of the Keefe Bartels Trial Advocacy Scholarship.

Featured Representative Matters

- Secured a significant win for TD Bank before the New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division, in which the court affirmed the trial court's grant of summary judgment in the client's favor, agreeing that New Jersey does not permit plaintiffs to use negligence as a lower-standard substitute for malicious prosecution.
- Advocated for and won a "no-cause" arbitration award for a client regarding a premises liability matter where damages were calculated at more than \$500,000.
- Achieved a successful dismissal with prejudice of an alleged motor vehicle accident despite an initial default judgment against the client of more than \$150,000.
- Argued and obtained a dismissal with prejudice for a client on summary judgment after highly contested litigation concerning an insurance broker matter.
- Obtained a settlement on behalf of an insurance broker client in a matter where the

Services

- Complex Commercial & Class Action Litigation
- Insurance & Reinsurance
- Litigation
- Trial Practice

Education

- Seton Hall University School of Law (J.D.)
- Rutgers University (B.A.)

Admissions

- New York
- New Jersey
- U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for

plaintiff alleged and substantiated more than \$5 million in damages.

- Obtained a pre-answer dismissal with prejudice on behalf of a client concerning a multimillion-dollar residential real estate insurance broker negligence matter.
- Secured a settlement on behalf of an insurance broker client in which damages were assessed at well over \$500,000 for a house fire.
- Drafted all motion papers and successfully argued and won summary judgment on behalf of an international bank where the plaintiff alleged serious injuries from a trip and fall.
- Facilitated a multi-party global settlement on behalf of an international banking client for a favorable figure after years of litigation and a \$1.5 million demand from the plaintiff over a complex premises liability dispute.
- Obtained a low-figure settlement on behalf of an international banking client after contested discovery concerning a complex multi-party premises liability matter.
- Obtained a low-figure settlement on behalf of an international banking client after contested discovery and depositions revealed damages in the range of \$175,000 to \$200,000 in a complex multi-party premises liability matter.

the Third Circuit

- U.S. Supreme Court

Memberships

- Barrister, John C. Liffand American Inn of Court
- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, New Jersey State Bar Association
- Member, New York State Bar Association
- Member, New York City Bar Association
- Member, Middlesex County Bar Association

Clerkships

- Clerkship to Judge J. Randall Corman of the Middlesex County, New Jersey, Superior Court.

Experience

Stradley Ronon Secures Appellate Win for TD Bank on New Jersey Claims Arising from Law Enforcement Involvement

A Stradley Ronon has secured a significant win for TD Bank before the New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division, which affirmed the trial court's grant of summary judgment in the client's favor. In *Wimbish v. TD Bank*, the plaintiff sought to hold TD Bank liable under a negligence theory after criminal charges stemming from an attempted check transaction were later dismissed. The Appellate Division rejected that theory, agreeing that New Jersey does not permit plaintiffs to use negligence as a lower-standard substitute for malicious prosecution.

The decision builds on important New Jersey precedent, including *Morris v. TD Bank*, another prior TD Bank win, in which the Appellate Division declined to recognize negligence-based claims that would undermine the state's strong public policy encouraging cooperation with law enforcement. In *Wimbish*, the court reaffirmed that where a plaintiff's alleged harm flows from a criminal prosecution, the proper claim, if any, is malicious prosecution, a cause of action requiring a substantially higher

showing, including malice and lack of probable cause.

The ruling is an important confirmation for financial institutions and other businesses that New Jersey courts will not expand negligence law to penalize citizens or businesses for contacting or assisting law enforcement. It also reinforces TD Bank's successful defense strategy in a line of cases addressing attempts to recast malicious-prosecution allegations as ordinary negligence claims.

Stradley Ronon Secures Summary Judgment Victory for Bank in Multimillion-Dollar Theft Case

After 10 years of litigation, a Stradley Ronon team has secured summary judgment on behalf of a bank in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in a complex case involving a multimillion-dollar burglary affecting a safe deposit box.

The plaintiff, an LLC formed solely to pursue this lawsuit, filed suit over the theft. Central to the dispute was the ownership of the box's contents and whether the LLC had standing to bring the claim. During discovery, the individuals who rented the box admitted they did not own the items inside and instead asserted they were holding the items for an unidentified third party.

In response, the bank argued the renters lacked the authority to transfer ownership or title to the contents of the box. Furthermore, the bank contended that the assignment on which the lawsuit was based was invalid, as it failed to convey ownership or title of the stolen contents.

On summary judgment, the bank raised defenses for lack of standing and an invalid assignment. The plaintiff opposed the motion and also sought leave to amend its complaint in an attempt to cure the standing deficiencies. The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York ruled in favor of the bank, dismissing the case for lack of standing and denying the plaintiff's request to amend as untimely, prejudicial and futile.

On appeal, the Second Circuit upheld the district court's dismissal, bringing this long-running litigation to a close. The victory reinforces the importance of legal precision and the critical need to assert jurisdictional defenses at the inception of any case.

Publications

Using NY Lawsuit Loan Law, Ruling Against Shady Injury Suits

Law360

June 17, 2026

New York Appellate Division Affirms High Bar for Trivial-Defect Dismissals in Trip-and-Fall Cases

June 16, 2026