

Lian Skaf

Partner

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Lian works with clients to investigate the facts of a loss and develop a strategy for recovery, often from the day of a loss through completion. He has taken several cases through trial and has successfully mediated numerous others.

OVERVIEW

Lian Skaf is counsel in the Subrogation Department and practices exclusively in the field of property subrogation. He handles major property losses involving fires, water leaks, structural damage, product and construction defects and other catastrophic failures. He has worked in the field of subrogation for over seven years.

Lian is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and has litigated cases in twelve other jurisdictions as lead counsel with the assistance of local counsel. He has experience both resolving matters prior to filing suit and litigating complex matters. Lian works with his clients to investigate the facts of a loss and develop a strategy for recovery, often from the day of a loss through completion. He has taken several cases through trial and has successfully mediated numerous others.

Prior to joining the firm, Lian served as law clerk to the Honorable Francine Axelrad in the Appellate Division of the New Jersey Superior Court. While in law school, he served as the Lead New Developments Editor for the *Rutgers Journal of Law and Religion*, which published his note on mitigating evidence in capital murder cases. Lian also participated in the Rutgers Hunter Moot Court Competition, placing in the top ten oralists, and in the Rutgers Street Law program which sends law students to neighboring Camden schools to discuss legal principles.

Lian is a certified arbitrator for the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas.

PRACTICES

Subrogation

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania

New Jersey

U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

EDUCATION

Rutgers School of Law - Camden, JD, 2008

Georgetown University, BA, 2001



RECOGNITION AND INVOLVEMENT

Lian handles pro bono cases for Philadelphia VIP.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Subrogation Department Settles Plumbing Failure, Water Damage Case

Subrogation Department Resolves Large Water Loss Case

Litigated \$3 million case on behalf of several insurance companies pertaining to an electrical fire in New Jersey; involved complex litigation with several defendants and co-plaintiffs

Represented insurance carrier and recovered favorable settlement in negligent construction and design matter in Florida

Represented insurance carrier and recovered settlement in breach of contract case in Ohio

Represented insurance carrier and recovered favorable settlement in water loss case in Massachusetts

IN THE NEWS

White and Williams Announces 15 Lawyer Promotions
1.3.22

Subrogation Lawyers Get Real Life Fire Training
10.27.21

White and Williams Announces Lawyer Promotions
Two Lawyers Elected to Partnership and Eight Associates Promoted to Counsel
1.2.20

Law Week 2017: Associates Volunteer for Lawyers in the Classroom and Legal Advice Live
5.5.17

EVENTS

Finding the Sweet Spot...What Do You Do When the Claim is Not Finalized
2024 NASP Spring Conference, 3.22.24

Master of Ceremonies: The Art of Running the Show at Joint Inspections
NASP Webinar, 5.9.23

Keeping the Lights On: A Primer for Handling Cases Against Utilities From Notice to Recovery
2023 NASP Spring Conference, 2.16.23

Recovery and Beyond: The Past, Present and Future of Subrogation
National Association of Subrogation Professionals Annual Conference, 11.16.20

I Fall to Pieces: Investigating Microbiologically Influenced Corrosion in Sprinkler Systems
2020 National Association of Subrogation Professionals Spring Conference (Webinar), 4.23.20

No Stone Unturned: Finding Recovery When/Where You Didn't Think To Look
National Association of Subrogation Professionals, Annual Conference (Washington, DC), 10.28.19

Podcast: Strategies for Conquering Your Next Mediation
National Association of Subrogation Professionals, Fall 2018

Effective Trial Handling: A Primer for Trying Your First Case
12.1.16

PUBLICATIONS

Missouri Protects Subrogation Rights
3.19.24

New York Court Enforces Economic Loss Doctrine
The Subrogation Strategist, 5.17.23

Michigan Court Waives Goodbye to Subrogation Claims, Except as to Gross Negligence
The Subrogation Strategist, 2.28.23

Hold on Just One Second: Texas Clarifies Starting Point for Negligence Statute of Limitations
The Subrogation Strategist, 6.3.22

Waive It Goodbye: Despite Evidence to the Contrary, Delaware Upholds an AIA Waiver of Subrogation Clause
The Subrogation Strategist, 4.12.22

Who's on First: How First-Party Claims Adjusters Add Value to Subrogation Recovery Efforts
Subro Sessions, 12.30.21

As Time Rolls On So Do Spoliation Claims
Subrogator Magazine, Fall/Winter 2021

Spoliation: Often Argued, Rarely Understood
Subro Sessions, 9.23.21

Mindful Mediation: Navigating the Path to Recovery (Part 2)
Subro Sessions, 7.16.21

Florida Court Gives Parties Assigned a Subrogation Claim a Math Lesson
The Subrogation Strategist, 7.12.21

Mindful Mediation: Navigating the Path to Recovery (Part 1)
Subro Sessions, 6.4.21

Industry Standard and Sole Negligence Defenses Can't Fix a Defect
The Subrogation Strategist, 5.11.21

What the Jury Doesn't Know about Insurance Won't Hurt Them
The Subrogation Strategist, 3.1.21

Washington Court Finds that Statute of Repose Fraud Exception Argument Lacks Energy
The Subrogation Strategist, 12.9.20

A Whole New World: Building Automated Systems (BAS) and Subrogation
Subrogator Magazine, Fall/Winter 2020

Illinois Federal Court Determines if Damages Are Too Remote
The Subrogation Strategist, 6.3.20

Avoiding the "S" Word: Cautionary Evidence Handling Folktales and How to Avoid Becoming Part of the Lore
Subrogator, Spring/Summer 2020

In Louisiana, If the Band Plays On, the Plaintiff Cannot Recover Loss of Use Damages
The Subrogation Strategist, 3.9.20

Virginia Molds Tort Versus Contract Law in New Home Construction Case
The Subrogation Strategist, 1.17.20

Tennessee Looks to Define Improvements to Real Property
The Subrogation Strategist, 11.8.19

Crisis Averted: Why Having An Attorney At Inspections Can Avoid Catastrophes
Subrogator Magazine, Fall/Winter 2019

Amazon Loses – It Is a Seller Under Wisconsin's Products Liability Law
The Subrogation Strategist, 9.6.19

Texas Walks the Line on When the Duty to Preserve Evidence at a Fire Scene Arises
The Subrogation Strategist, 7.10.19

Washington Court Tunnels Deeper Into the Discovery Rule
The Subrogation Strategist, 5.10.19

Minnesota "Fryes" the Difference Between Novel Scientific Theory and Novel Science
The Subrogation Strategist, 3.25.19

California Court of Appeals Holds Subrogating Carrier Cannot Assert Claims of Its Suspended Insured
The Subrogation Strategist, 1.17.19

Strategies for Conquering Your Next Mediation
Subrogator Magazine, Fall/Winter 2018

Florida Court of Appeals Holds Underlying Tort Case Must Resolve Before Third-Party Spoliation Action Can Be Litigated
The Subrogation Strategist, 11.15.18

Rhode Island District Court Dismisses Plaintiff's Case for Spoliation Due to Potential Unfair Prejudice to Defendant
The Subrogation Strategist, 8.13.18

Supreme Court of Idaho Rules That Substantial Compliance With the Notice and Opportunity to Repair Act Suffices to Bring Suit
The Subrogation Strategist, 7.10.18

Texas Court of Appeals Confirms That, in Order to "Bring Suit" Within the Statute of Limitations Period, a Plaintiff Must Exercise Due Diligence to Serve the Complaint
The Subrogation Strategist, 5.8.18

Holding Amazon Accountable: The Indecency of the Communications Decency Act Defense
Subrogator, Spring 2018

Supreme Court of Virginia Holds that Intentional Spoliation of Evidence is Required for an Adverse Inference Jury Instruction
The Subrogation Strategist, 1.19.18

Investigating MIC: An Overview for Subrogation Professionals Evaluating Losses from Microbiologically Influenced Corrosion in Sprinkler Systems
Subrogator, Fall 2017

House Bill Clarifies Start Point for Florida's Statute of Repose
The Subrogation Strategist, 9.8.17

In Ohio, When a Subrogating Insurer is the Plaintiff, Defendants Should not File Contribution or Indemnification Claims Against the Insured
The Subrogation Strategist, 5.11.17

New York Appeals Court Rekindles the Spark
The Subrogation Strategist, 3.3.17

New York Appeals Court Rekindles the Spark
The Subrogation Strategist, 3.3.17

In New Mexico, There Can be More Than One Statute of Repose Accrual Date on Construction Projects
The Subrogation Strategist, 11.15.16

In New Mexico, There Can be More Than One Statute of Repose Accrual Date on Construction Projects
The Subrogation Strategist, 11.15.16