



PENNSYLVANIA

DEFENSE INSTITUTE

An Association of Defense Lawyers
& Claims Executives

Benefits & Services

The Pennsylvania Defense Institute

Communication. Education. Representation. Career Enhancement.

The PENNSYLVANIA DEFENSE INSTITUTE (PDI) is one of the largest organizations of its kind in the United States. Organized in 1969, it boasts an impressive membership of defense lawyers, insurance company executives, self-insurers and independent adjusters from across Pennsylvania. PDI was named the outstanding state organization of its kind in the country in 2011 by the Defense Research Institute, the nationwide organization of defense organizations. PDI members receive:

- Information about relevant and significant legislation and case law.
- Education through PDI's varied continuing education programs.
- Representation on legislation of interest and on cases with important legal issues to our members.
- Career enhancement through various services designed to improve the skills and success of our members.

The Pennsylvania Defense Institute

Communication.

One of PDI's strengths is information communication.

- Communication Among PDI Members – PDI members regularly communicate with one another through PDI's listserve. Whether you are looking for an expert, expert report, transcript, or relevant case law, PDI's listserve is the place to get member recommendations. One of PDI's most popular services, PDI's Board of Directors, Executive Director and lobbyist also use the listserve to instantaneously reach our members with important information or calls for action.
- PDI Website – PDI recently upgraded its website to offer communication among members, case law summaries, and articles of interest through our new Counterpoint Plus blog. Counterpoint Plus will replace PDI's listserve as the primary way for members to communicate. The website also offers our quarterly scholarly publication Counterpoint on-line to PDI members. Counterpoint is the leading publication of its kind in Pennsylvania, circulated to all Pennsylvania judges. The website also now offers a searchable membership directory, a legal research library, access to legislation of interest and amicus briefs filed by PDI. These benefits are available only to PDI members.
- Interaction with Other Defense and Insurance Industry Organizations – PDI has a close working relationship with Defense Research Institute, the national defense organization. PDI also regularly interacts with other state defense organizations and with other Pennsylvania organizations on issues of common interest.

Education.

Over the past several years, PDI has significantly increased the number and improved the quality of its continuing education programs for PDI lawyers and insurance industry members.

- PDI conducts annual regional continuing education programs around Pennsylvania. Reasonably priced for lawyers and free to insurance industry employees, these programs offer up-to-the-minute information on topics of interest to our members.
- PDI also conducts substantive law programs, such as workers compensation law updates and a conference on issues important to women.
- PDI's Annual Conference brings keynote speakers and presenters of interest at sites pleasing to our members and their families. These Conferences offer education, networking and fun for attendees.
- PDI also moderates in-house CLE programs for its members. Ask for PDI's Continuing Legal Education Programs brochure for more information.

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Representation.

PDI is “the voice of the defense” in Pennsylvania. PDI represents its members through:

- Lobbying on legislation important to PDI and its members. PDI retains a lobbyist to represent its interests before the Pennsylvania legislature. PDI members lobby through testimony before legislative committee. And, PDI serves as a source of information for legislators and contact on legislation.
- Participation in important cases through amicus curiae briefs. PDI members volunteer their time and talent to write briefs for PDI on the most important legal issues to our members. Writers are rewarded with the unique experience of practice before Pennsylvania’s appellate courts.
- Substantive law committees populated and chaired by PDI members expert in their fields of practice. These Committees include: Amicus Curiae, Appellate Practice, Insurance Bad Faith, Civil Practice & Procedure, Insurance Coverage & Subrogation, Employment & Civil Rights, Motor Vehicle Law, Products Liability, Professional Liability, Transportation & Trucking, and Workers Compensation. Their members provide expertise on legislation and case law, testify as needed in legislative hearings, and make recommendations regarding amicus participation.

Career Enhancement.

PDI provides members the opportunity to promote their practice and improve their skills through:

- Networking with hundreds of other PDI members through our continuing education programs, Annual Conference, committee participation, listserv and website, and social events like our annual regional holiday parties.
- Access to the expertise and resources of our members through our listserv and website.
- Access to the services offered by PDI’s valued partners.

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PDI'S Partners



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