

**Phillip S. Bixby — Verill Dana, LLP** (Portland, ME): Phillip brings over a decade of experience to his civil litigation practice, which focuses on aggressive and creative problem-solving in order to put his clients in the best possible position at alternative dispute resolution or trial. He believes in the importance of setting forth a comprehensive strategy at the outset of litigation in order to intelligently steer a case to an attainable goal. He has experience managing, and trying, cases in all three Northern New England States. Following law school, he practiced at Ryan Smith & Carbine in Rutland, Vermont, where he defended several of Vermont's largest ski areas, and at Orr & Reno in Concord, New Hampshire, where he protected the interests of a wide-range of parties involved in civil litigation. Phil's practice focuses on defense of product liability claims, including manufacturers of industrial machinery, farm and lawn products, elevators and other lift products as well as producers of consumer products. He also handles cases involving allegations of professional misconduct or negligence, premises liability, and other personal injury and commercial litigation.



**Deborah Buccina — Douglas, Denham, Buccina, & Ernst** (Portland, ME): Deb graduated from Colby College and the University Of Maine School Of Law. She served as Assistant District Attorney in York County from 1981 – 1985 and as Deputy District Attorney in 1985. Thanks in part to her early experience as a prosecutor, Deb is very much at home in the courtroom and is highly regarded as a trial attorney by both the bench and bar. She was recently admitted into the highly selective American Board of Trial Advocates and is AV rated in Martindale Hubbell with a 5 out of 5 peer rating. Her trial practice is devoted to representing both plaintiffs and defendants in personal injury claims. She also represents employers before the Maine Workers' Compensation Board. Deb's longtime representation of a self-insured major employer has brought her particular expertise in managing the special concerns of a self-insured entity. She is a frequent speaker on Maine Workers' Compensation laws and related topics in seminars for members of the insurance and business community.



Deb has expanded her practice to include mediation and arbitration services. She has successfully assisted numerous parties to resolve their disputes by agreement and has a reputation as a skilled and effective mediator. Deb's particular ability to connect with people from all walks of life enables her to work successfully in the mediation setting and obtain a high rate of resolution.

Deb is a past officer in the Gignoux Inn of Court and is serving a second term at present. She is active in the Women's Law section of the MSBA and is past co-chair of the Carolyn Dube Glassman Award Committee. She is a regular participant in the Mentor Program assisting law students who are beginning their profession.

**David L. Herzer — Norman, Hanson & DeTroy LLC** (Portland, ME): Dave is a trial attorney with experience since 1992 in insurance defense litigation, insurance coverage, construction disputes, employment law, hospitality law, and medical malpractice defense representing businesses and individuals in courts throughout the State of Maine, both State and Federal, and in appeals to the Maine Law Court, the First Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He is a member of the Advisory Committee on the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure that develops rules of court and of the Maine Professional Ethics Commission that advises attorneys on issues of ethics. Dave has been a contributing author for several legal texts and has been a featured speaker at seminars for hospitals, medical practices, insurance companies, attorneys, hospitality trade groups, and the construction industry on a variety of topics.



**Daniel Rapaport — Preti Flaherty** (Portland, ME): Dan is the Chair of the firm's Litigation Group and focuses his practice on personal injury, medical malpractice and professional liability defense. He is an experienced trial lawyer, having tried more than 100 jury trials on a range of issues. Dan is also a highly skilled mediator having mediated more than 200 civil disputes in the past five years and was recently named Lawyer of the Year for Mediation by *Best Lawyers*.



Dan has been on the faculty of the Maine Trial Lawyers Association's Maine College of Trial Advocates and frequently presents on litigation and medical malpractice topics.

He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Colby College and earned his law degree at Cornell University in 1978 and joined Preti Flaherty the same year. Professional affiliations include the Maine State Bar Association, Vice Chair-Litigation Section; Maine Trial Lawyers Association; Massachusetts Bar Association; and the International Association of Defense Counsel. His professional awards include: *Best Lawyers in America*; Lawyer of the Year (2015) for Mediation; *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*; and *New England Super Lawyers*. Dan has been involved with the Volunteer Lawyers Project as a *pro bono* volunteer; Jewish Federation, former Director; American Camping Association; Maine Youth Camping Association; Colby College Maine Liaison Board; and the Colby College Lacrosse Boosters.