



SAUNDERS and SCHMIELER  
LAW OFFICES

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## ABOUT US

Saunders & Schmieler is an established full service law firm practicing in all state and federal courts in Maryland, Washington, D.C., and Virginia. The firm has represented the interests of a wide array of individual, corporate, and insurance clients. Saunders & Schmieler emphasizes the importance of providing sound legal advice and the highest quality advocacy in order to meet its clients' goals.

For decades, Saunders & Schmieler has helped clients minimize risks and resolve legal disputes as they arise. Whether the case involves minor property damage, multi-jurisdictional environmental torts, product liability, construction disputes, insurance coverage, catastrophic loss, or a class action, Saunders & Schmieler has consistently delivered favorable results to its clients. Our team's litigation expertise, decades of legal wisdom, and client responsiveness can successfully manage your case.

## PRACTICE AREAS

Our clients come first. We help you achieve your goals by providing consistent, high-quality, and practical legal services for a reasonable price. Saunders & Schmieler has a wealth of experience in the following areas:

*Trial & Appellate Litigation*  
*Advice & Consultation*  
*Insurance Defense*  
*Insurance Coverage*  
*Self-Insurance*  
*Personal Injury*  
*Negligent Security Claims*  
*Slip and Fall Claims*  
*Mass Torts*  
*Products Liability*  
*Premises Liability*  
*Defamation*  
*Animal Liability*  
*Construction Liability*  
*Breach of Contract Claims*  
*Advertising Injury*  
*Unfair Competition*  
*Copyright Claims*  
*Trademark Claims*

*Trade Secret Claims*  
*Errors and Omissions*  
*Insurance Risk Management*  
*Corporate Law*  
*Directors & Officers Liability*  
*Motor Vehicle Tort and Trucking Claims*  
*Toxic Tort Claims*  
*Civil Rights Litigation*  
*Medical/Professional Malpractice Litigation*  
*Environmental Claims*  
*Toxic Torts*  
*Carbon Monoxide & Toxic Fume Claims*  
*Contamination Claims*  
*Occupational Illness Defense*  
*Housing Discrimination and ADA Claims*  
*Class Action Defense*  
*Sports & Entertainment Litigation*  
*Discrimination Claims*  
*Wrongful Death & Survival Litigation*

In addition to our broad-based general and litigation practice, Saunders & Schmieler consults with business clients concerning their business practices, corporate matters, and commercial law.

The firm has worked with a number of well-established insurance companies including:

*American Specialty Insurance*  
*Boston Old Colony Insurance Company*  
*Broadspire, a Crawford Company*  
*Buckeye Union Insurance Company*  
*Chubb Group of Insurance Companies*  
*Chubb Indemnity Insurance Company*  
*Chubb Services Corporation*  
*Chubb & Son*  
*Chubb Specialty Insurance*  
*CNA Commercial Insurance*  
*CNA Insurance Companies*  
*Commercial Insurance Company*  
*Engle Martin & Associates, Inc.*  
*Federal Insurance Company*  
*Fidelity & Casual Ins. Co.*  
*Firemen's Insurance Co. of Newark*  
*Founders Insurance Company*  
*Great Northern Insurance Company*

*Gulf Insurance*  
*IBNI Insurance Services Limited*  
*Kansas City Fire & Marine Insurance Co.*  
*K&K Insurance Company*  
*MBIA Insurance Corporation*  
*Millers Mutual Group*  
*Moore Group, Inc.*  
*Nations Builders Insurance Services, Inc. (NBIS)*  
*Niagara Fire Insurance Company*  
*Ohio Casualty Group*  
*Pacific Indemnity Insurance Company*  
*Phoenix Insurance Company*  
*Ranger Insurance Company*  
*Specialty Risk Services, Inc.*  
*Sun Insurance Company*  
*TIG Insurance Company*  
*Vigilant Insurance Company*  
*York Risk Services Group, Inc.*

Saunders & Schmieler has represented all types of insureds, from Fortune 500 companies to individual homeowners and drivers.

## **INSURANCE DEFENSE LITIGATION**

Saunders & Schmieler has decades of experience representing insurance companies and their insureds in matters such as:

*Insurance Defense Trial & Litigation*  
*Insurance Coverage Law & Litigation*  
*Self-Insurance*  
*Intellectual Property Law*  
*Products Liability Defense*  
*Premises Liability*  
*Defamation and Invasion of Privacy*  
*Construction Liability*  
*Discrimination Claims*

*Errors and Omissions*  
*Advice & Consultation*  
*Insurance Risk Management*  
*Corporate Law*  
*Commercial Litigation*  
*Directors & Officers Liability*  
*Environmental Law*  
*Toxic Tort Defense*  
*Personal Injury Defense*

*Labor Relations,  
Workers' Compensation  
Mass Tort & Litigation Defense  
Civil Rights Litigation  
General Tort Liability Defense  
Security Law  
Medical & Professional Malpractice  
Environmental Defense Litigation  
Contract Law*

*Advertising Injury  
Toxic Chemical Litigation  
Toxic Fume and Contamination Claims  
Occupational Illness  
Housing Discrimination  
Civil Liability  
Class Action Defense  
Professional Sports and Entertainment Law  
General Trial and Appellate Practice*

The firm's attorneys are a team of experienced insurance defense litigators who have worked in close association with insurance adjusters and insurance personnel on a day-to-day basis for many years. The firm has received the highest A/V Rating from Martindale-Hubbell, and is also listed in AM Best's Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys and Adjusters.

As dedicated professionals, the attorneys of Saunders & Schmieler keep abreast of new developments by attending various Continuing Legal Education seminars and courses. The firm also advises its insurance clients of pertinent new developments in the law by providing memoranda on landmark cases. The firm's philosophy is to provide the best service possible by being a step ahead in terms of legal knowledge and client responsiveness.

## **INSURANCE COVERAGE**

In conjunction with a long-standing tradition of service to the insurance industry, Saunders & Schmieler has a lengthy history as coverage counsel for a number of major insurance carriers. The firm has developed an extensive insurance coverage practice and currently provides advice and counseling to insurance companies, corporate clients, and individuals on a wide variety of insurance coverage and insurance underwriting matters. The firm excels in the analysis of insurance coverage issues by providing detailed coverage opinions and recommendations with regard to all aspects of insurance coverage, serving as litigation counsel in the defense and prosecution of declaratory judgment actions, bad faith claims, and breach of contract actions.

## **PROFESSIONAL SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT LAW**

Saunders & Schmieler has extensive experience representing the owners and operators of stadiums, arenas, and entertainment venues and has a deep understanding of the claims that may be raised by their patrons. Through the years, potential liability to such clients has grown under developing statutes, ordinances, and expanding common law concepts of negligence. The firm

has defended a large number of claims made by injured spectators and attendees and is keenly aware of the publicity and public relations issues that may arise from such claims.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL, TOXIC & MASS TORT CLAIMS**

Saunders & Schmieler has extensive experience handling the defense of a wide range of environmental claims, literally from A (asbestos) to Z (zinc).

The firm has successfully defended toxic chemical claims, including those related to formaldehyde, lead paint, carbon monoxide, toxic fumes, sick buildings, pesticides, and other forms of hazardous materials and contamination.

Saunders & Schmieler provides experienced and knowledgeable representation to its clients in the areas of environmental dispute claims arising under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) as amended by the 1986 Superfund Amendments Reauthorization Act (SARA), the Clean Water Act (CWA) as amended by Federal Water Pollution Control Amendments (FWPCA), and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), among others.

### **PRODUCT LIABILITY**

Saunders & Schmieler has successfully represented a large number of product manufacturers and merchants defending against product liability claims premised in negligence, breach of warranty, and strict liability. Saunders & Schmieler has proudly contributed to the shaping and defining of the defenses available to the manufacturers and merchants of commercial products and enjoys an excellent reputation among its clients for the quality of representation afforded in the defense of products liability claims.

### **SECURITY LIABILITY**

Saunders & Schmieler has a long history of zealously defending business clients against wrongful death and personal injury claims alleging that improper security caused a plaintiff's damages based on the criminal acts of a third person. The firm has represented numerous national and local business owners, as well as many security companies. The firm has published extensively on this area of the law and has presented a number of seminars on the subject to the insurance industry and business leaders.

## **MOTOR VEHICLE TORT & TRUCKING CLAIMS**

Saunders & Schmieler has a wealth of experience effectively defending clients against motor tort and trucking claims. Trucking cases have different needs from other industries, and drivers and their companies require an attorney who is familiar with the industry and understands the problems that truckers encounter. The firm has also handled a large number of uninsured/underinsured motorist claims, as well as coverage issues that may arise from motor vehicle cases.

## **PREMISES LIABILITY**

Saunders & Schmieler has decades of experience litigating premises liability claims and advising businesses and individuals on how to avoid future claims. We have represented a broad spectrum of clients, from professional sports teams, the owners of stadiums and arenas, national chain stores, to individuals and businesses in the local community. We have handled matters ranging from slip-and-falls in the lower trial courts to federal court cases alleging that inadequate security caused the deaths or serious bodily injury of customers.

## **COMMERCIAL LITIGATION**

In addition to the firm's defense litigation practice, Saunders & Schmieler has a history of effectively representing clients involved in commercial litigation. For years, the firm has represented business clients in cases involving claims involving breach of contract, fraud, misrepresentation, tortious interference with contracts and business relations, unfair business practices, employment, consumer protection, unfair competition, intellectual property (copyright, patent, and trademark), and disputes among business owners.

## **CONSTRUCTION LITIGATION**

Saunders & Schmieler has significant experience representing clients involved in construction litigation. The firm has handled claims involving construction defects and delays, as well as contractual disputes between owners, architects, general contractors, subcontractors, and material suppliers. The firm has also handled a number of cases involving mechanics liens.

## **DISCRIMINATION CLAIMS**

Saunders & Schmieler has experience handling federal and state law discrimination claims, as well as advising clients how to remain in compliance with the law. The firm has represented clients in litigation involving age, race, disability, and gender discrimination, as well as discrimination in the fields of employment, housing, and public accommodations.

## **GENERAL CORPORATE & BUSINESS LAW**

Saunders & Schmieler has served as legal advisors to businesses, insurance companies, and individuals in all phases of commercial, insurance and business law for over 45 years.

## **INDIVIDUAL RELATIONSHIPS**

At Saunders & Schmieler, our clients come first. We take the time to build individual relationships with our clients and to understand our clients' needs. We strive to help you achieve your goals by providing consistent, high-quality, practical services for a reasonable price.

## **APPELLATE LITIGATION**

Our experienced team of attorneys has litigated cases in all appellate courts in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia, as well as the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Supreme Court. We can provide you with the advice and representation you need to achieve the best result for you in an appellate court.