



# Michael T. Traxler

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*Shareholder and Chair, Trucking and Commercial Transportation and Insurance*

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## *Services and Industries*

- Trucking and Commercial Transportation
- Construction
- Insurance
- Commercial Litigation
- Real Estate
- Litigation
- Business, Corporate and Tax

## *Education*

Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University, J.D., 2003

The Pennsylvania State University, B.S. in Administration of Justice and Pre-Law, 1998

## *Admissions*

Pennsylvania

Maryland

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

Michael T. Traxler, Esq. is a shareholder and serves as the Chair of Saxton & Stump's Trucking and Commercial Transportation Group and Insurance Law Group. He is a dynamic litigator and problem solver with 20 years of experience serving the legal needs of businesses in the trucking and construction industries.

As Chair of the firm's Trucking and Commercial Transportation Group, Mike leads a team providing comprehensive litigation and transactional services to companies in the transportation industry. He helps motor carriers and insurance carriers navigate the complexities involved with major accidents that occur throughout the country. Through his deep knowledge of the transportation industry, Mike counsels clients on risk avoidance matters and every day operational issues unique to the transportation industry. As general counsel to the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association, Mike stays on top of the ever-changing regulations and issues impacting motor carriers, freight brokers, and shippers. He is frequently called upon to interpret federal and state regulations and implement strategies to protect the business interests of companies that serve one of our nation's most important industries. Mike also works closely with our Business, Corporate and Tax Group to protect the assets of motor carriers and their affiliated companies from the liability exposures endemic to the transportation industry.

As Chair of the firm's Insurance Law Group, Mike brings his decades of experience serving the legal needs of blue collar industries to overseeing a team of attorneys focusing on bad faith, coverage and first party claims involving commercial and professional lines of insurance. He has a keen understanding of the fact that insurance touches all facets of a company's operation and advises businesses accordingly. Mike also relies upon his network of insurance professionals to help clients make sure necessary and proper coverages are in place.

In his construction practice, Mike represents commercial contractors, subcontractors and product manufacturers in breach of contract claims, defective workmanship claims, transactional matters, and business formations. Clients routinely request Mike's services to interpret and negotiate commercial contracts. In addition, for those commercial contractors with fleets of vehicles regulated by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and/or PUC, Mike's experience in the transportation industry allows him to help construction clients avoid and solve problems involving the operation of their commercial vehicles.

Before joining Saxton & Stump, Mike was a shareholder in a Central Pennsylvania-based firm. Prior to that, he was a litigator for nine years in the Harrisburg office of a prominent Philadelphia insurance defense firm where he was responsible for the immediate response investigation of hundreds of incidents involving catastrophic injuries and fatalities. Mike's evidence gathering and preservation experience enables him to advise clients on strategically positioning themselves to advance their interests in future litigation and, in some circumstances, avoiding lawsuits altogether.

## ***Recognitions***

- Rising Star Recognition, Law Politics Magazine, 2008
- Top Fundraiser for the Breath of Life Gala, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Central Pennsylvania Chapter, 2015

## ***Community Involvement***

- Susquehanna River Trail Association, President, 2016 – present
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Central Pennsylvania Chapter, 2015 – 2019
- Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University
  - First-Year Student Mentorship Program, mentor, 2011 – 2019
  - General Alumni Association Board of Directors, member 2005 – 2008
  - Board of Counselors, member, 2005 – 2008
  - Board of Governors, member, 2004 – 2005

## ***Professional Affiliations***

- Dauphin County Bar Association
  - People’s Law School, Co-Chair, 2006
- Cumberland County Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association
- Maryland State Bar Association