



John C. Shea

Personal Injury Attorney

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About John C. Shea

John C. Shea has been in practice since 1977 focusing his practice exclusively on representation of the injured.

Graduating from [Wake Forest University](#) (Cum Laude), he received his J.D. from the [University of Richmond School of Law](#). He has been with Marks & Harrison since that time. His special interests are [brain injury claims](#) and tractor-trailer cases.

Interesting Cases / Settlements / Verdicts

1. \$12,000,000 Quadriplegia in Wreck with Garbage Truck
2. \$11,000,000 Young Woman Sustains Brain Injury in Wreck with Service Van
3. \$10,000,000 Brain Injuries in Railroad Accident
4. \$7,000,000 Motorcyclist Collision with Drunk Driver
5. \$6,500,000 Man Suffers Serious Burns
6. \$5,100,000 Man Suffers Multiple Fractures in Collision with Tractor Trailer
7. \$4,200,000 Brain and Multiple Other Injuries in Motor Vehicle Accident
8. \$3,900,000 Quadriplegia in Tractor Trailer Wreck
9. \$3,000,000 Death in Wreck with Box Truck
10. \$3,000,000 Man Suffers Extensive Injuries When His Car Is Rear Ended By Tractor Trailer In West Virginia
11. \$2,600,000 Bad Faith Action for Injured Child
12. \$2,000,000 Three Family Members Die in Crash with Tractor Trailer

Memberships & Associations

- Virginia State Bar
- [Virginia Trial Lawyers Association](#), President (2001 – 2002)
- [American Association for Justice](#) (State Delegate, 2004-2005)
- American Board of Trial Advocates
- [Virginia Bar Association](#)
- Southern Trial Lawyers Association (Board Member)
- Boyd-Graves Conference (1996 to 2009)
- The Association of Interstate Trucking Lawyers of America (National Advisory Board)
- Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America (2019)

Awards & Recognitions

- 2022 VADA— VTLA Civility And Professionalism Award Recipient
- [Best Lawyers 2005-Present](#)
- Virginia Super Lawyers (Top 10 in Virginia 2013, Top 50 in Richmond 2015, 2017)

- Richmond 2012 Personal Injury Lawyer Of The Year By Best Lawyers In America
- Best Lawyers “Lawyer of the Year” – Product Liability Litigation (2021, 2025)
- Achieved Highest Rating by Martindale-Hubbell
- Virginia Business Magazine, Virginia’s Legal Elite In Civil Litigation (2010, 2020 and 2024)
- Richmond Times-Dispatch, Best Attorney, 2022
- Leaders in the Law by Virginia Lawyers Weekly (2017)
- Virginia Lawyers Hall of Fame by Virginia Lawyers Weekly (2020)

Publications & Speeches

- [“Effective and Ethical Witness Preparation for Depositions”](#), Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Annual Convention
- Handling a Tractor Trailer Case: The Team Approach
- Expert Witness 101: Preparing For & Making the Most of the Experience
- Complex Regional Pain Syndrome
- Marketing For Law Firms
- Investigating Tractor-Trailer Wrecks
- “The Lawyer’s Role; Truck Accident Litigation Second Edition, ABA
- “New Ideas for Presentation of Damage Data,” Presentation at Southern Trial Lawyers Association Conference
- “Medical Expense Coverage From the Plaintiff’s Perspective,” VADA/VSCA Presentation
- “Settling Auto Accident Cases,” Panel Moderator, Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “Advertising Regulation in Virginia,” Presentation to the Virginia Beach Bar Association
- “Demonstrative Evidence,” Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Speaker
- “Pre-Trial Procedures,” Richmond Bar Association Bench Bar Panelist
- “Ethical Considerations in Solicitation in Virginia,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “Use of Neuropsychologists as Expert Witnesses,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “How Insurance Companies Evaluate and Negotiate Settlement of Automobile Accident Cases – What the Attorney Can Do To Maximize Recovery,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, (Co-authored with Robert J. Arthur)
- “A Lawyer’s Guide to Mediation Preparation,” Presentation at the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Convention
- “Personal Injury by the Numbers,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “CYA: When Your Client Won’t Settle,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- A Guide to the Preparation and Trial of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Cases, Published by the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “Focus Groups and Supplemental Jury Questionnaires,” Presentation at the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Advocacy Seminar
- “Marketing for the Small Law Firm,” Presentation at the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Practice Management Seminar
- “Preparing Your Client for Mediation,” Presentation to the Richmond Bar Association
- “Understanding Fibromyalgia Syndrome,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association

- Trial Lawyers Association “Getting Your Name Out With or Without Media Advertising,” Presentation to the Young Trial Lawyers Section of Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “Role of Defense Neuropsychologists Should Be Limited Under Virginia Evidence Law,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “Computer Animation: Dealing With the Stealth Witness,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “Handling Tractor Trailer Cases From Intake Through Discovery,” Practice Pointers, Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Tractor Trailer Collision Retreat
- “Opening Statement,” Presentation at the Richmond Bar Association’s Trial Tips and Strategies from the Masters
- “The Play’s The Thing,” CLE Panel Discussion, Young Trial Lawyers Section of the Richmond Bar Association, Presented with Dr. David Ball
- “Hot Topics In Evidence,” Presentation at the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Evidence Seminar
- “Maximize Efficiency With Night And Weekend Staff,” American Association for Justice’s Small Office Practice Session Newsletter
- “Multi-Media In Mediation,” Solo & Small Firm Conference of Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- Presentation on “Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy & Fibromyalgia” at the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Medical Seminar
- “Opening Statement for the Plaintiff,” Presentation at the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Advocacy Seminar
- “Day-in-the-Life Videos: How to Make Sure the Jury Sees it All”
- “Trial Themes for the Injured Plaintiff”
- “A Practical Guide to Persuasive Opening Statements,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “Fibromyalgia: The Rodney Dangerfield Of Medical Diagnosis,” Presentation at Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Seminar
- “Mediation: Make Love, Not War,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “Proving Non-Pecuniary Losses Of Beneficiaries In A Wrongful Death Case,” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- “How to investigate Tractor-Trailer Accidents” The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association: Online
- “Heavy Vehicles in Heavy Weather”, The Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- Presentation on “Marketing Tips For The Solo And Small Firm Lawyer” with John Remsen at the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association 2008 Solo and Small Firm Retreat
- “Role Of Plaintiff’s Counsel” Presentation at the 2008 Paradigm Summit East of Nurse Case Managers
- “Truck Driver Qualifications”, Co-Authored Presentation with Ryan T. Walker at 2017 Tractor Trailer Litigation Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Seminar
- Chairman, Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Retreat on Mild Traumatic Brain Injury
- Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Tort Law Seminar; Seminar Chairman
- Virginia Trial Lawyers Association CLE Committee; Chairman
- Moderator, Marketing Round Table, Solo & Small Firm Conference of Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- Speaker at ABA’s 31st National Conference on Professional Responsibility: Advertising Our Profession – The Good, The Bad And The Ugly; Chicago, Illinois
- Guest Speaker on Personal Injury at the 27th Annual “Bridge The Gap” Seminar for the Virginia Bar Association

Firm News & Press

- [Marks & Harrison Attorneys Recognized as 2016 Super Lawyers](#)
- [John C. Shea Attends 2016 American Association of Justice Convention](#)
- [John C. Shea Participates in “A Trial from Start to Finish”](#)

- [John C. Shea of Marks & Harrison Made a Donation to Rappahannock Legal Services, Inc.](#)
- [Shea, Hooe, and Snesil Selected for 2015 Best Lawyers in America](#)
- [Marks & Harrison Lawyers Named Virginia Super Lawyers](#)
- [Fourteen Marks & Harrison Attorneys Recognized by The National Trial Lawyers](#)
- [Kevin M. McGowan and John C. Shea Attend AAJ Midwinter Meeting](#)
- [John C. Shea Organized, Moderated October Advocacy Program of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association](#)
- [John D. Ayers receives AV Preeminent® rating from Martindale-Hubbell](#)
- [John Shea and Greg Hooe Named “Best Lawyers” in America](#)
- [John C. Shea and Gregory S. Hooe Selected For Inclusion in 2013 edition of Best Lawyers in America® in Personal Injury Litigation](#)
- [John C. Shea Joins the Association of Plaintiff Interstate Trucking Lawyers of America](#)
- [Eight Marks & Harrison attorneys were named in the 2012 Virginia Super Lawyers® Publication.](#)
- [Marks & Harrison Attorneys Named to the Personal Injury Litigation Section of Virginia’s Best Lawyer](#)
- [John C. Shea, James M. Kessel, J. Penn Crawford and Ryan E. Wind Speak at the Southern Trial Lawyers Association Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana](#)
- [John C. Shea Speaks VCU Pain Management & Spine Symposium](#)
- [John C. Shea and Gregory S. Hooe Selected As Best Lawyers in America®](#)
- [John C. Shea Speaks at the National Interstate Trucking Super Summit](#)
- [John C. Shea Published in The Practicing Law Institute Publication](#)
- [Three Marks & Harrison Lawyers Named to 2016 Edition of Best Lawyers in America](#)
- [Marks & Harrison’s John C. Shea Featured On Cover Of JUSTLAW](#)
- [6 Marks & Harrison Attorneys Named Super Lawyers, Rising Stars](#)
- [Five attorneys chosen as 2017 Virginia Super Lawyers, Rising Stars](#)
- [Marks & Harrison Attorneys Attend AAJ Conference in Boston](#)
- [John C. Shea Selected as Leader in the Law](#)
- [Attorney John C. Shea Accepts “Leader in the Law” Award](#)
- [Three Marks & Harrison Attorneys Named Best Lawyers](#)
- [Marks & Harrison Attorneys Recognized as 2018 Super Lawyers](#)
- [Marks & Harrison Attorneys Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America© 2019](#)

What Clients Say

I'm always impressed by the kindness with which Mr. Shea treats his clients. Whether educated or not, rich or poor, he treats them all with respect and makes them feel as though their case is the most important one on his desk.

- Quote from Court Reporter

My dad was injured while in the hospital. John Shea won a judgment for him so we were pleased with the outcome. But just as important to my family was how respectfully John Shea and his staff treated our elderly father and he demanded the other side treat my father with respect and dignity as well.

- Ellen Marie H., Richmond, VA