

Lawdragon: No Surprises: Staying a Step Ahead in Practice with Orrie Levy

Orrie Levy approaches the law as a high-stakes game of chess. He orchestrates his moves strategically and methodically, carefully calculating risks and patiently assessing the next ten steps in advance. He's been practicing law long enough to recognize the particular puzzle each case presents and confidently find solutions with an aptitude that can only be earned through experience. Levy has a knack for the long game.

"Every move and response in every case has a reason," says Levy. "When you have a goal-driven methodology and everything is about what the building blocks are to achieve that goal, you're most likely to be successful."

At [Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna](#), Levy represents policyholders in insurance-related matters. The skillful litigator's practice boasts variety, breadth and depth but his main focus is on directors & officers liability insurance coverage issues. Levy places a premium on keeping his finger on the pulse of the industry to stay ahead of its emerging – and sometimes troubling – trends.

"I've been seeing an uptick in insurance companies refusing to cover settlements of lawsuits arising from corporate transactions, which in the past has been a mainstay of directors & officers insurance coverage," says Levy. "There seems to be a fundamental gap in this arena between the litigation positions being taken by insurance companies and the reasonable expectations of policyholders regarding the coverage they believe they purchased."

Levy brings with him a background in government as well as the public sector, in civil and criminal trials. As an Assistant District Attorney in the Appeals Bureau of New York’s Bronx County District Attorney’s Office, Levy tried more than 40 criminal appeals. His experience has granted him ample opportunities to argue a broad scope of high-impact cases to a variety of judges and juries. Throughout his expansive career, Levy has learned that no two organizations are the same – each case must be tailored with unique nuance and respect for the specifics.

Levy highly prioritizes a “no surprises” model when it comes to communication with his clients. He believes strongly in the importance of being communicative and responsive. Never one to be a pawn, this tactic helps to ensure Levy and his clients stay in the powerful position of offense – and helps him keep control of the board.

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Orrie A. Levy