

**Melinda S. Gehris**  
**Devine, Millimet & Branch, P.A.**  
**49 North Main Street**  
**Concord, New Hampshire 03301**  
**(603) 226-1000 [mgehris@devinemillimet.com](mailto:mgehris@devinemillimet.com)**

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**DISPUTE RESOLUTION EXPERIENCE:**

Serve as neutral for mediation, neutral evaluation and arbitration. Act as neutral in hundreds of disputes, both privately and through the New Hampshire Courts. One of 10 mediators for New Hampshire Probate Court. Volunteer mediator for New Hampshire Superior Court Rule 170 Program. Arbitrator for uninsured motorist, coverage and civil disputes. Faculty and coach for half-day and multi-day training for mediators and neutral evaluator. Provide conflict management counseling and training for work groups.

**LEGAL EXPERIENCE:**

**DEVINE, MILLIMET & BRANCH, P.A.**, Concord, New Hampshire  
Associate, Litigation Department July 1994 - December 1999  
Shareholder, Litigation Department January 2000 - Present

Chair of Insurance Law Practice Group of full service regional law firm with over 70 attorneys. Manage caseload of varied files with emphasis on coverage analysis and coverage litigation, including automobile, homeowners, general liability, environmental and directors and officers, employers liability and health and disability claims. Represent clients in arbitration proceedings and serve as arbitrator for uninsured motorist claims. Experienced in all facets of both state and federal litigation including management and resolution of cases beginning with fact investigation and claim analysis through drafting pleadings, conducting written discovery and depositions, mediation, preparing and arguing dispositive motions and conducting bench and jury trials and arbitration proceedings. Briefed and argued cases for New Hampshire Supreme Court and federal courts. Specialize in alternate dispute resolution, serving as a neutral for disputing parties. Responsible for many clients and oversee associates work for those clients. Faculty for numerous in-house and public seminars. Continuously mentor and train new associates in all aspects of practice. Litigation Department Paralegal Coordinator. Appointed to several committees for firm administration. Leader of several committees and sections of the New Hampshire Bar Association.

**MORRISON, MAHONEY & MILLER**, Boston, Massachusetts  
Associate September 1991 - May 1994

Responsible for interpretation of liability insurance policies, analysis of coverage issues and preparation of coverage opinions with a concentration in environmental coverage cases. Represented domestic and international insurers in coverage disputes and litigation. Directly involved in numerous continuing multi-party, multi-state litigation cases. Personally handled all aspects of various types of civil litigation including discovery, depositions, motions, negotiation sessions and court appearances. Principally responsible for negotiation and eventual litigation of overpayment collections for a large national disability insurer. Researched and wrote legal memoranda, civil pleadings for state and federal court.

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

**ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY**, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
Senior Claims Representative January 1986 - August 1988

Responsible for investigating, negotiating and settling over 370 pending first and third party personal lines claims under auto and homeowner's policies. Specialty in third party personal injury and first party significant injury claims. Significant experience in investigation and analysis of patient treatment and provider payments and lost wage benefits.

**EDUCATION:**

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS**, Boston, Massachusetts  
Graduate Certificate in Dispute Resolution, 2001

**NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**, Boston, Massachusetts  
J.D. 1991

**ALBRIGHT COLLEGE**, Reading, Pennsylvania  
B.S. Business Administration/Spanish, 1985

**BAR ADMISSIONS:**

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, United States District Courts of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, First Circuit Court of Appeals, United States Supreme Court

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

President of New England Chapter of Association for Conflict Resolution; Chair of the Dispute Resolution Section of New Hampshire Bar Association; Vice Chair of the Dispute Resolution Committee of the New Hampshire Bar Association; Member – New Hampshire Conflict Resolution Association; Member Association for Conflict Resolution; Board of Directors, Dress for Success New Hampshire.

**SEMINARS:**

1996 New Hampshire Insurance Adjustors Association Continuing Education Conference, Presenter; 1997 New Hampshire Insurance Adjustors Association Continuing Education Conference, Presenter; 1999 New Hampshire Insurance Adjustors Association Continuing Education Conference, Presenter; 1999 Lorman Education Services New Hampshire Insurance Law, Faculty; 1999 New Hampshire Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Workplace Violence; Risks, Responsibilities and Safety Tips, Facilitator; 1999 New Hampshire Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Emerging Litigation Issues in Year 2000; 1999 NBI Insurance Coverage Law in New Hampshire, Faculty; 2000 Directors & Officers Insurance Coverage; 2000 New Hampshire Supreme Court Advance Rule 170 Mediator Training - Faculty; 2000 NBI Uninsured and Underinsured Motor Vehicle Coverage in New Hampshire, Faculty; 2002 New Hampshire Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Representing Clients in Civil Mediation, Faculty; 2002 NBI Challenges in New Hampshire Insurance Coverage Litigation, Faculty; 2003 New Hampshire Bar Association Federal Practice Section Training on Mediation, Faculty; 2003 NBI Challenges in New Hampshire Insurance Coverage Litigation, Faculty; 2003 New Hampshire Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Small Business Counsel Symposium, Faculty; 2004 NBI Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Law in New Hampshire, Faculty; NHBA 2004 Barriers to Settlement in Mediation, Faculty; 2004 NHCRA Barriers to Settlement in Mediation, Faculty; 2005 Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Law in New Hampshire, Faculty; 2005 NEACR Barriers to Settlement in Mediation, Faculty; 2005 Martha's Vineyard Mediation Association Barriers to Settlement in Mediation, Faculty; 2005 Civil Mediation Training, Designer and Trainer.