



## Peter S. Everett

### Principal

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**Peter Everett is a trial lawyer who devotes his practice to representing persons injured by the reckless or careless acts of others. His practice includes four broad areas. First, Mr. Everett represents clients seriously injured as a result of motor vehicle collisions, with special emphasis on tractor-trailer collisions. He is a member of and has served on the Executive Committee of AAJ's Interstate Trucking Litigation Group. He has represented victims of commercial motor vehicle collisions arising from collisions in California, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C. and Maryland, as well as in state and federal court in Virginia.**

Second, Peter represents individuals who have suffered traumatic brain injuries ("TBI") resulting from tractor-trailer crashes, defective products, motor vehicle collisions, bicycle accidents and other circumstances. Mr. Everett is a member of the Brain Injury Association of Virginia and co-authored Counsel's Role in Recognizing the Symptoms of Traumatic Brain Injury and Assisting Medical Professionals in its Evaluation, VTLA Journal. In 2005 he lectured at a national conference on brain injury to health care and other professionals, and at September 2008 and 2015 retreats of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, he spoke on the use of learned treatises in TBI cases, and on trial tactics in TBI cases.

Third, he represents victims of violent crimes in child care center and inadequate security cases against child care facilities, shopping malls, hotels, apartment buildings and other commercial buildings. He has testified before Congress on legislation designed to regulate the security guard industry and has addressed victim's rights issues on CNN's *Law & Crime*, ABC's *20/20* and *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. He has published several

works in this area, including articles entitled "Establishing the Standard of Care in Inadequate Security Cases," published in the Journal of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, Establishing a Duty, Reaching the Promised Land, "Direct Examination of Security Experts" and "Violence Comes to the Mall," published in Trial magazine. Mr. Everett served for ten years as a member of the Executive Committee of the Inadequate Security Litigation Group of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA) and co-chaired that national litigation group for four years. He has assisted in the representation of clients in inadequate security matters in Arizona, California, Florida, New York, the District of Columbia, Maryland and West Virginia, as well as in federal and state courts in Virginia.

Finally, Peter litigates on behalf of persons injured by defective conditions in buildings or real estate such as defective roadways, balcony railings and recreational trails, with a special emphasis on representing injured children.

## Practice Areas

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- Personal Injury
- Wrongful Death
- Justice for Crime Victims, Inadequate Security Litigation
- Brain Injury
- Automobile and Trucking Accidents
- Product Liability
- Sex Abuse Victims

## Education

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- University of Virginia (B.A., 1975)
- University of Virginia (J.D., 1979)

## Professional Honors & Activities

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- Named "Lifetime Lawyer" by the *Washingtonian* magazine
- *Washingtonian Magazine*, Washington, DC's Best Lawyers (2020-2024)
- *U.S. News Best Lawyers*, Personal Injury Litigation, Plaintiff (1999-2025) and selected as a Lawyer of the Year, Washington, DC Personal Injury Litigation, Plaintiff (2018)
- *Super Lawyers*, Personal Injury General: Plaintiff, Washington, DC & Virginia (2019-2025)
- *Northern Virginia Magazine*, Top Lawyer, Personal Injury, Plaintiff (2022-2023)
- *Arlington Magazine*, Top Attorneys, Personal Injury (2019)
- Martindale-Hubbell AV rated

## Community Service

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- Member, Board of Directors, FACETS (2010-2016) and continuing volunteer service

## Representative Cases

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- Working with co-counsel, secured a \$9,000,000 settlement for the families of three students who tragically lost their lives and two survivors of the November 2022 University of Virginia shooting, to achieve justice and

advocate for reforms to improve campus safety and prevent future gun violence.

- Working with co-counsel, secured a \$14,000,000 settlement for nine children who were sexually assaulted by a teacher's aide at a large regional child care center. We conducted a focus group to assess how jurors might evaluate the facts of the case.
- Working with co-counsel, secured a \$5,200,000 settlement for the family of a college student who died from alcohol-related hazing at a fraternity event. A portion of the settlement supports the family's foundation, which promotes anti-hazing education and awareness initiatives nationwide.
- Achieved a \$2,325,000 settlement for a woman who suffered permanent leg injuries and life-altering consequences in a broadside collision, highlighting the importance of thorough case preparation, including a "day in the life" video and a life care plan.
- Achieved a \$2,850,000 settlement for a 4-year-old child sexually assaulted by a daycare teacher's aide, resulting in physical injuries and long-term PTSD that required ongoing support, working with a widely respected expert in child psychiatry.
- Secured a \$1,100,000 settlement for an 8-year-old child permanently injured after being struck by a package delivery driver who veered to the wrong side of the street, causing significant damage to the child's knee and long-term physical and emotional challenges. We conducted a focus group to assess how jurors might react to the child's injuries.
- Secured a \$2,750,000 settlement for a client who sustained a mild traumatic brain injury due to hidden black ice on an airport walkway.

## News & Insights

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- Blankingship & Keith Secures \$6,000,000 Settlement for Woman Injured in Highway Construction Accident
- Don't Let Insurers Undercut Your Family's UIM Protection
- If You Own a Car in Virginia, Beware of "Opt-Out" Letters: Protecting Your Rights Under Virginia's New UM/UIM Coverage Law
- Twenty-Seven Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Shine in the 2025 Edition of Best Lawyers in America
- Blankingship & Keith Plays Integral Role in Securing \$9 Million Settlement in UVa Shooting Cases
- \$550,000 Settlement Reached in Child Assault Case at Local Daycare
- Twenty Blankingship & Keith, P.C. Attorneys Named Virginia Super Lawyers and Rising Stars for 2024
- Blankingship & Keith's Personal Injury Lawyers Secure Three Major Settlements Totaling \$6.675M, Recognized in Virginia Lawyers Weekly
- From Exclusivity to Equity: Rethinking Virginia's Restrictions on Civil Justice for Victims of Workplace Violence
- Ten Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Recognized as "Top Lawyers" by Northern Virginia Magazine
- Twenty-two Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Shine in the 2024 Edition of Best Lawyers in America
- Blankingship & Keith, P.C. Attorneys Named Virginia Super Lawyers and Rising Stars for 2023
- U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Offers New Recommendations for Window Coverings Safety
- Protecting Your Child from Abuse at Child Care Centers
- Blankingship & Keith Teams with Seven Law Firms to Secure \$14 Million Settlement for Child Care Center Victims of Sexual Assault
- Can Social Media Companies Evade Accountability?
- Changes in Virginia Law Regarding Improving UM/UIM Coverage
- Five Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Named "Top Lawyers" by Northern Virginia Magazine
- Ten Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Named "Top Lawyers" by Washingtonian Magazine
- Washingtonian Honors Three Blankingship & Keith Attorneys with Lifetime Achievement Awards