

Curriculum Vitae

**BRUCE ROBERT PFAFF
PFAFF & GILL, LTD.**

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Nature of Practice:

Representing plaintiffs in product liability, medical malpractice, and all other types of personal injury and wrongful death cases.

Honors:

Top 10 Personal Injury Plaintiffs' Lawyers in Illinois by Leading Lawyers Network, 2013.

Top 10 Consumer Lawyers in Illinois by Leading Lawyers Network, 2013.

Chicago Product Liability Litigator of the Year, 2011, awarded by *Best Lawyers*.

Top 10 of Illinois Lawyers, Illinois Super Lawyers award, *Chicago* magazine, 2011.

One of *The Best Lawyers in America* for personal injury, products liability and medical malpractice law.

Elected as one of the Top 100 trial lawyers by the American Trial Lawyers Association.

"Trial Lawyer Excellence" award from Jury Verdict Reporter, *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, 2010.

"AV Preeminent" rating by Martindale Hubbell, highest possible peer review rating for legal ability and ethical standards.

"10.0 Superb" rating by www.avvo.com, highest possible rating.

President's Award, Illinois Trial Lawyers' Association, received June 2000

Legal Experience:

Pfaff & Gill, Ltd., Chicago, Il.
2003 to present, founder and co-owner

Bruce R. Pfaff & Associates, Ltd., Chicago, Il.
1991 to 2002, founder and owner

Corboy & Demetrio, P.C., Chicago, Il.
1984 to 1991, lawyer

Bostwick & Tehin, San Francisco, Ca.
1979 to 1984, lawyer

Education:

Hastings College of the Law,
University of California, San Francisco, Ca.
Juris Doctor degree earned 1979

Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H.
Bachelor of Arts degree earned 1976

Licenses:

State Bar of Illinois
U.S. Supreme Court
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
U.S. District Court - various Districts

**Memberships
and Committees:**

American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)
National Board of Directors, 2001-2007
Editorial Board, 2003-present
Amicus Curiae Committee, Chair, 1999-2007
President Illinois Chapter 1999-2000
Senior Life Fellow of ABOTA Foundation

International Society of Barristers
Fellow, elected 2008

International Academy of Trial Lawyers
Fellow, Elected 2012

Illinois Trial Lawyers Association (ITLA)
Amicus Curiae Committee, 1989-present; Chair,
1994-present
Board of Managers, 1993 – 1995

Medical Malpractice Committee, 1986-present,
Chair 1989
Ad Hoc Supreme Court Appeal Committee, 1995
to 1998; 2005-2010.

Chicago Bar Association (CBA)
Special Committee on Proposed Revisions to
Illinois Supreme Court Rules (1995)
Subcommittee re: Lawyers Referral Service, 1991
to present
Tort Litigation Committee, 1989 to present
Chair, 1992-1993
Medico-Legal Relations Committee, 1985 to 1989
Chair 1987-1988

American Association for Justice (AAJ), formerly ATLA
State Captain, ATLA Exchange, 1992
Amicus Curiae Committee, 1997-present

Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA)
Children's SSI Project Volunteer, 1997-1999
Tort Law Section Council, 1999- 2002
Legislation Committee, 2002 – present;
Vice Chair 2003-present
Amicus Curiae Committee, 2003-present

The American Trial Lawyers' Association
Invited member, 2008

Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Jury
Instructions in Civil Cases, 1999 to 2010.

Illinois Supreme Court Special Committee on
E-Business, Chair, 2011

Trial Lawyers for Public Justice (TLPJ)
Finalist- 1998 Trial Lawyer of the Year Award
Sustaining member

Leading Lawyers Network Advisory Board
Chosen one of the top 5% of Illinois lawyers in
the fields of medical malpractice and personal
injury law.

**Representative Charitable
Organizations Supported:**

LaRabida Children's Hospital

Misericordia

Erin's Handicapped Children's Fund

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless

Greater Chicago Food Depository

Public Justice

Public Citizen

Evans Scholars, Western Golf Association

Daniel Murphy Scholarship Foundation

**Representative
Published Decisions:**

Murphy v. Mancari's Chrysler Plymouth, 408 Ill.App.3d 722 (1st Dist. 2011) and 2012 IL App (1st) 120014-U

Mikolajczyk v. Ford Motor Co., 369 Ill.App.3d 78 (2006), 374 Ill. App. 3d 646 (2007), 231 Ill.2d 516 (2008).

Gann v. TTI, Inc., 491 F.Supp.2d 771 (2007); 508 F.Supp.2d 654 (2007) and 522 F.Supp.2d 1021 (2007)

In re U.S., 398 F. 3d. 615 (7th Cir. 2005)

Rennert v. Great Dane L.P., 543 F.3d 914 (7th Cir. 2008).

Carrillo v. Ford Motor Co., 325 Ill.App.3d 955 (2001)

Burger v. Lutheran General Hospital, 198 Ill.2d 21 (2001)

Gracia v. Volvo N.V., 112 F.3d 291 (7th Cir. 1997), *cert. den.* 522 U.S. 1050 (1998)

DeYoung v. Alpha Construction Co., 186 Ill.App.3d 758 (1989)

Schaffner v. C & NW Transp. Co., 129 Ill.2d 1 (1989)

See “Professional Highlights” for representative trial court results.

Friend of the Court Briefs:

I have prepared and filed friend of the court (*amicus curiae*) briefs in the U.S. Supreme Court, the Illinois Supreme Court, the Iowa Supreme Court and various Appellate Courts in the following cases:

Schultz v. Gotlund	No. 69010
Wakeford v. Rodehouse	No. 73352
Kotecki v. Cyclops	No. 68568
Boatman's v. Martin	No. 73328
Jones v. O'Young	No. 73463
Thompson v. County of Cook	No. 73133
Roach v. Springfield Clinic	No. 73394
Gill v. Foster	No. 74350
Dominguez v. St. Johns	No. 77062
Herzog v. Lexington T'ship	No. 77037
Beavers v. Consolidated	No. 78178
Bucheleres v. Chicago Park	No. 78760
People v. City of Chicago	No. 84452
Movitz v. First Nat'l Bank	No. 97-3761 & 98-864
Lafever v. Kemlite Company	No. 84761
Hills v. Bridgeview et al.	No. 1-98-620
People v. Philip Morris et al.	No. 90185 & 90186
Hagen v. LeDuc	No. 94920
Rieff v. Evans	No. 02-727 (Iowa)
Clayton v. County of Cook	No. 98127
Mele v. Howmedica Inc.	Nos. 1-01-4228 & 4229
Melena v. Anheuser-Busch	No. 99421
York v. Rush	No. 99507
Blue v. Environmental	No. 98034
Calles v. Scripto-Tokai	No. 101089
Ready v. United/Gorecki	No. 103474
Mount v. HCA Corp.	No. 06-1859
Studt v. Sherman Hosp.	No. 2-07-0945
LeBron v. Gottlieb	Nos. 105741 & 105745
Jablonski v. Ford Motors	No. 110096

Articles & Speeches:

“Trying and Settling a Complex Multiple Defendant Medical Negligence Case,” Illinois Trial Lawyers’ Ass’n Medical Negligence Committee, March 2013.

“Presenting the Case to a Jury,” Illinois State Bar Ass’n., May 2012

“Implications of Health Care Technology for Trial Practice,” Chicago Bar Ass’n., April 2012.

“Multi Party Cases: Who Belongs on the Verdict Form?” accepted for publication in *ITLA Journal*, Winter 2011.

“Product Liability Update and Review,” Illinois Trial Lawyers’ Ass’n, October 2010.

“Consumer Expectations and Risk-Utility in Products Liability,” American Association for Justice Annual Convention, July 2009.

“The Right to Submit Questions to Witnesses,” *CBA Record*, May 2009.

“Direct Examination” and “Closing Argument” presentations at Chicago Bar Association program "Creative Insights for the Tort Trial Lawyer," March 2009.

“Settlement Approaches,” Zurich Insurance Company presentation, January 2008.

Update for Medical Negligence Notebook, “*Res Ipsa Loquitor*,” for the Illinois Trial Lawyers’ Association, November 2007.

“Crashworthiness Cases, Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education, Chicago, November 2007.

Masters in Trial presenter, American Board of Trial Advocate, Dallas, Texas, October 2007.

“Products Liability: Update and Review,” Illinois Trial Lawyers’ Association, October 2006.

“Investigating and Proving Crashworthiness Cases,” Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Midwinter Convention, February 2006.

Masters in Trial presenter, American Board of Trial Advocates, Seattle, November 2005.

“Preserving the Jury Trial,” Defense Research Institute, October 2005.

“Enforcing *Darling* Liabilities,” Illinois Trial Lawyers’ Journal, Winter 2005.

“Medical Negligence,” ITLA’s Annual Update and Review Seminar, Chicago, October, 2004.

“Medical Malpractice-Have They No Shame,” Illinois Trial Lawyers’ Ass’n, September 2004.

“The Wall of Shame,” presented at Bryce Downey, Chicago, August 2004

“Jury Trials in Complex Cases Survive Iowa Fight,” Voir Dire, Spring 2004.

Masters in Trial presenter, ABOTA, New Orleans, December 2003.

Trial presenter of Plaintiff’s Opening Statement at Advocacy Showcase, Illinois Trial Lawyers’ Association, May 2003.

“Too Complex for a Jury?” Voir Dire, Spring 2003.

“Common Defenses in Cerebral Palsy Cases,” Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Atlanta, February 2003.

“Automotive Seat Design Liability: Discussion of *Carrillo v. Ford Motor Co.*,” Attorney’s Information Exchange Group program, Washington D.C., April 2002.

“Automobile Products Liability” in Winning Techniques from Voir Dire to Closing, ITLA, February 2002.

Masters in Trial presenter, ABOTA, Detroit, November 2001

“Texts Should Have Vital Role in Litigation,” Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, October 19, 2001.

Res Ipsa Loquitor chapter in ITLA's Medical Malpractice Notebook, published December 2000

Res Ipsa Loquitor, presented to Illinois Trial Lawyers' Association's Medical Malpractice seminar, December 2000

The Last 90 Days before Trial, Chicago Bar Association, December 2000

Starting Your Own Law Practice, Chicago Bar Association, June 1999

Pre-Suit Investigation- Ethical-Considerations, Illinois Trial Lawyers' Association's annual Product Liability Seminar, February 1999.

Testimony re Proposed Changes to the F.R.C.P. before Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Judicial Conference of the United States, January 1999.

Client Relations 101, Illinois State Bar Association's Bridging the Gap Program, December 1998.

Relations Between Lawyers and Treating Doctors, Chicago Bar Association, Tort Litigation Committee, November 1998.

Client Relations 101, Illinois State Bar Association's Bridging the Gap Program, December 1997.

Presenting the Plaintiff as a Witness in a Medical Negligence Case, Illinois Trial Lawyers' Association, December 1997.

Recent Developments in Medical Negligence Law, Chicago Bar Association, Medico-Legal Relations Committee, December 1997.

Trial of a Premises Liability Case under House Bill 20, Northwest Suburban Bar Association, November 1997.

Motions in Limine and Motions for Mistrial, Illinois Trial Lawyers' Association, October 1997.

Jury Selection in a Civil Case, Chicago Bar Association, September 1997.

Client Relations 101, Illinois State Bar Association's Bridging the Gap Program, December 1996

Winning the Battle of the Experts at Trial, Chicago Bar Association, November 1996

Jury Selection, Chicago Bar Association's Summer Boot Camp for Aspiring Litigators, August 1996

Product Liability Litigation, Illinois Trial Lawyer's Association, January 1996

Pre-Suit Investigation of Medical Malpractice Cases, Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, December 1995

Rule 215 Medical Examinations, Illinois State Bar Association, November 1995

Civil Discovery Rule Changes, Chicago Bar Association, September, 1995 and November 1995

Obstetrical Nursing Negligence, Illinois Hospital Association, May 1995

Expert Witnesses and Medical Malpractice Cases, Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, May 1995

Effective Depositions, Chicago Bar Association, May 1995

Product Liability Trials: Plaintiff's Perspective,
Chicago Bar Association, February 1995

The Trial of Medical Negligence Cases, Chicago
Bar Association, June 1994

The Masters in Trial - Mock Trial, Chair,
American Board of Trial Advocates, March 1994

Medical Evidence, Chicago Bar Association, April
1993

Opening Statements, Mock Trial, American Board
of Trial Advocates, Chicago, March 1993

Cross Examination of Defendant's Medical Expert,
Chicago Bar Association, March 1993

Mock Deposition: Litigation Hits Home,
Legal Aspects of Nursing Practice, presented by
American Healthcare Institute, November 1992

Legal Issues Associated with Traumatic Brain Injury,
McHenry County Mental Health Board, in
cooperation with the Rehabilitation Institute of
Chicago, November 1992

Legal Malpractice - Update & Review,
Illinois Trial Lawyer's Association, Chicago
September 1992

Closing Argument: Lead Exposure Mock Trial,
Lead Poisoning Seminar, June 1992, sponsored by
Oppenheimer, Wolff & Donnelly, June 1992

Human Factors & Reconstruction,
Illinois Trial Lawyer's Association, Annual Meeting,
June 1992

Recent Trends in Product Liability Law,
Chicago Bar Association
Chicago, March 1992

Direct Examination of Plaintiff's Expert at Trial,
Illinois Trial Lawyer's Association, Chicago,
February 1992

Trial Considerations of the Plaintiff's Lawyer in Premises Liability Cases, Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, February 1992

Trial Considerations in Premises Liability Cases: Plaintiff's Perspective, Chicago Bar Association Chicago, November 1991

Direct Exam of the Injured Plaintiff: Intersection Collision - Disc Injury, Illinois Trial Lawyers Association Chicago, October 1991

Plaintiff's Perspective on the Kotecki Decision: Contribution Against Employers, Illinois Trial Lawyers Association Chicago, September 1991

High Risk Cases in Emergency Medicine, American College of Emergency Physicians, Mock Trial, Trial Attorney Participant, 1991

Trial Considerations of a Plaintiff's Lawyer in Premises Liability Cases, Chicago Bar Association, 1991

The Role of the Lawyer in Medical Advances: Protector or Obstructor, Conference, Chicago Neurosurgery Center, Keynote Address, 1990

High Risk Cases in Emergency Medicine, American College of Emergency Physicians, Mock Trial, Trial Attorney, Participant, 1990

Developing the Damage Case for the Plaintiff, American Law Institute-American Bar Association, Kansas City, MO, 1990

Use of Pleadings, Interrogatories and Depositions as Evidence, Chicago Bar Association, 1990

Explosion Cases: Preparation and Trial, Chicago Bar Association, 1990

Negotiating and Settling Personal Injury Cases, Illinois Institute of Continuing

Legal Education, Settlement Conference
Demonstration, 1990

Plaintiff's Perspective on Medical Malpractice
Cases, Illinois Founders Trust Annual
Meeting, 1989

Proving Present Cash Value of Future
Economic Damages, Illinois Institute of
Continuing Legal Education, 1989

Successful Settlement Negotiations: Plaintiff's
Attorney's Perspective, MMI Companies,
Inc., Focused Training Workshop on Advanced
Claims Management, 1989

Malpractice Protection, Academy of
Ambulatory Foot Surgery, 1989

Plaintiff's Perspective on Medical Malpractice,
Institute for Health Law, Loyola
University of Chicago School of Law, 1989

Preparation and Trial of Medical Negligence Cases,
Medico-Legal Relations Committee of Chicago Bar
Association, Moderator and Seminar Chair, 1989

Investigation, Pleading and Discovery in Strict
Product Liability Cases, Chicago Bar
Association, Author and Speaker (reprinted in *CBA
Record*, March 1989), 1988

Product Liability Practice: How to Obtain
the Successful Result, Chicago Bar
Association, 1988

Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Practices Act,
Illinois Trial Lawyers Annual Convention, 1988

Jury Instructions in a Product Liability Case:
A Plaintiff's Perspective, Illinois Institute of
Continuing Legal Education, 1988

Preparation and Trial of a Medical Negligence Case,
Chicago Bar Association, Co-Moderator, 1988

Product Liability, Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education, 1988

Crash Cases: A Hands-On Guide to Vehicle Collision Litigation, American Bar Association, 1988

Representing the Plaintiff: Soft Tissue Injuries and Closed-Head Trauma, Legal-Medical Seminars, Inc., 1987

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