



Donald J. Brown, Jr.

Of Counsel

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Donohue Brown Mathewson & Smyth LLC

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Education

J.D., Loyola University Chicago School of Law, 1973

A.B., John Carroll University, 1970

- Member of Alpha Sigma Nu, the Jesuit Honors Society
- Awarded the Beaudry Senior of the Year Award by his classmates, 1970
- Elected Chief Judge of John Carroll University Court
- Member of John Carroll University's football team, 1966-1970
- Member of Iota Chi Upsilon Fraternity

Affiliations

Illinois, 1973

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of
Illinois, 1973

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of
Illinois, 2012

Biography

Donald J. Brown, Jr. specializes in the defense of professional negligence and general liability cases. He is an experienced trial attorney in both federal and state courts and has tried a significant number of cases to verdict in over 45 years of litigation practice.

Mr. Brown is also a skilled mediator, drawing on his decades of trial and negotiating experience to help parties achieve mutually agreeable resolutions. His deep trial experience makes him a sought-after neutral for issues of professional negligence, product liability, and general liability matters.

Well respected by his peers, Mr. Brown was selected as one of the top 20 Chicago tort defense lawyers by *Chicago Lawyer* magazine. He has been elected a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and has been elected as a member of the Society of Trial Lawyers and the American Board of Trial Advocates. Mr. Brown recently received the Medal of Excellence Award from the Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

Mr. Brown's legal career experience has spanned a broad spectrum of litigation. His practice evolved from prosecuting street crimes to defending white collar criminal cases and continued to the civil arena. He has defended product liability clients, including medical device manufacturers, pharmaceutical companies and other product manufacturers. Mr. Brown now concentrates his practice on the defense of legal and medical professionals, as well as other defendants in catastrophic injury cases.

In 2017 Best Lawyers named Mr. Brown the Illinois Lawyer of the Year for Legal Malpractice Law – Defendants, a distinction awarded to individual attorneys with the highest overall peer-feedback for a specific practice area and geographic region. He has been named a Leading Lawyer in the areas of Professional Malpractice Defense Law: Including Legal/ Technical/ Financial and Medical Malpractice Defense Law. The list of Leading Lawyers is the result of thousands of contacts with Illinois lawyers asking which of their peers comprise the top lawyers in Illinois. Only those lawyers who are most often recommended qualify as Leading Lawyers. In 2005 and 2006, he was also named one of the top 100 Super Lawyers in Illinois in the area of Civil Litigation Defense. Super Lawyers are the top 5 percent of attorneys in each state, as chosen by their peers and through the independent research of Law & Politics. In 2021, Mr. Brown was recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the specialty of legal malpractice law.

Mr. Brown joined the firm as a founding partner in 1995. Previously, he was a partner at Baker & McKenzie where he practiced for 20 years. Prior to working in private practice, Mr. Brown served several years as a criminal prosecutor in the Cook County State's Attorney Office. He received his undergraduate degree from John Carroll University in 1970 and his law degree from Loyola University Chicago School of Law in 1973, when he was admitted to practice in Illinois.

Awards

- *The Best Lawyers in America*® (Legal Malpractice Law- Defendants)(2011 to present)
- Alumni Medal Award (2019) John Carroll University
- Alumni Medal of Excellence, Loyola University Chicago School of Law (2013)
- Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers
- "Top 20 Tort Defense Lawyers," Chicago Lawyer Magazine

- Illinois Super Lawyers (2005 – 2021)
- Who's Who Legal
- Member of the Leading Lawyers Network

Practice Areas

- Medical Malpractice
- Product Liability
- Professional Liability