



Matthew C. O'Connell
Shareholder
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Matt O'Connell is a veteran of more than 37 years as a trial lawyer. He has represented some of the world's most recognized companies in cases involving products liability, intellectual property, commercial and contract disputes, insurance coverage, environmental and toxic injury, and employment disputes. A founding member of the firm, Matt served as managing shareholder from 2017 through 2020. Recent professional recognition includes an appointment to a second three-year term on the Case Western Law Alumni Advisory Board. Matt grew up in Mexico City and is fluent in the Spanish language.

Education

University of Wisconsin-Madison, B.A., 1979
Case Western Reserve University, J.D., 1983

Awards & Recognition

Super Lawyers, 2008-2021
Rated AV/Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell
Senior Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America

Practice Areas

Environmental & Toxic Torts
Commercial Litigation
Insurance Coverage
Intellectual Property & Trademark Enforcement
Products Liability

Admissions

Ohio
Kentucky
Tennessee

United States District Courts

Northern District of Ohio
Southern District of Ohio
Eastern District of Ohio
Eastern District of Kentucky
Middle District of Tennessee
Western District of Tennessee

United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Representative Matters

Successful defense of railroad tank car manufacturer in closed head injury case resulting in directed verdict in longest civil trial in Hamilton County, Ohio.

Obtained affirmance of summary judgment in favor of fluid sealing materials product manufacturer in maritime asbestos case, established law of "substantial factor" in toxic exposure cases. 434 F.3d 488 (6th Cir., 2005)

Represented trademark holder in enforcement lawsuit resulting in jury awarding trademark holder damages in excess of \$5 million. Established law in the Sixth Circuit finding contributory liability under the Lanham Act for trademark infringement. 717 F.3d 498 (6th Cir., 2013).

Publications

Editor, Ohio Association of Civil Trial Attorneys
Quarterly Review, Fall 2010

Involvement

Mentor, Ohio Supreme Court Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring Program
Senior Fellow, Cleveland Bar Foundation

Associations

Ohio State Bar Association
Kentucky Bar Association
Tennessee Bar Association
Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
Ohio Association of Civil Trial Attorneys
Irish-American Bar Association of Cleveland
Claims and Litigation Management Alliance
Defense Research Institute
Federal Bar Association
John M. Manos American Inn of Court
Irish Legal 100
Law Alumni Advisory Board, Case Western Reserve School of Law