

SAMMI L. RENKEN

Shareholder / Vice President

renkens@jbltd.com

T +1 312-984-0261

F +1 312-372-9818



Barb Koning

koningb@jbltd.com

SERVICE AREAS

[Business Litigation](#)

[Administrative Law](#)

INDUSTRY SECTORS

[Health Care](#)



Sammi L. Renken is a vice president of Johnson & Bell, Ltd. She joined the firm in 2001, and serves on the Board of Directors. She is co-chair of the Healthcare group and co-chair of the firm's Women's Initiative.

Ms. Renken is an experienced trial lawyer with litigation, advocacy and counseling skills that cross practice areas. Based on a broad jury trial background, Ms. Renken provides solutions and results for her client's most challenging cases. Her practice has included representation and trials involving malpractice and medical actions, commercial and business disputes, nursing home litigation, drug and medical device lawsuits, Medicare and Medicaid audits, fraud claims and attorney malpractice litigation. She has also represented various professionals in licensure matters before the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR).

In 2021, Ms. Renken was honored to be elected for the Membership Chair position in the American Board of Trial Advocates ([ABOTA](#)) and the Illinois Chapter of ABOTA. In 2017, she was also welcomed into the fellowship of the Trial Lawyer Honorary Society of the Litigation Counsel of America. In 2018, Ms. Renken was honored to be selected as a member of The Society of Trial Lawyers. All three organizations are by invitation only to litigators with proven results as lead trial counsel. She recently was recognized as a [2020 Women in Law Inaugural Honoree](#) by the *Chicago Lawyer* and *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin* publications.

Ms. Renken is licensed to practice in Illinois and North Carolina. She earned her undergraduate degree from The University of Texas at Austin, and her J.D. from The University of Texas School of Law.

ADMISSIONS & EDUCATION

ADMISSIONS

Illinois Supreme Court
North Carolina State Bar
U.S. District Court, Middle District of North Carolina
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals

EDUCATION

The University of Texas School of Law, J.D., 1999
The University of Texas at Austin, B.A., 1995

AFFILIATIONS

American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA): Membership Chair 2021-Present Associate 2016-Present
The Society of Trial Lawyers, 2018 - Present
Fellow, Trial Lawyer Honorary Society, Litigation Counsel of America, 2017- Present
Illinois Society of Healthcare Risk Management (ISHRM): President Elect 2019-2021; Secretary 2015-2019; Board Member 2013-2017
Chicagoland Healthcare Risk Management Society (CHRMS): President 2013-2014; President Elect 2011-2012; Secretary 2010-2011; Board Member 2008-2015
American Society for Healthcare Risk Management
Illinois Association of Healthcare Attorneys (IAHA)
ALFA Women's Initiative Steering Committee 2016-Present
Coalition of Women's Initiatives in Law: Board Member 2014-Present

HONORS

Salute! Women in Law Honoree, Chicago Law Bulletin, Chicago Lawyer, 2020
Invited member of The Society of Trial Lawyers, 2018
Selected fellow, Trial Lawyer Honorary Society of the Litigation Counsel of America, 2017
Invited member of the American Board of Trial Advocates, 2016
President's Award, Chicagoland Healthcare Risk Management Society, 2011
"Forty Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch," Law Bulletin Publishing Company, 2010
Leading Lawyer, 2021, 2022

CLIENT RESULTS

[Plaintiff's Attempt to Enlarge "Damages Pie" Gets Nixed by Court](#)
[Renken Secures Defense Verdict in \\$2.75M Wrongful Death Lawsuit Against Hospital](#)
[Renken Secures Hospital's Dismissal with Prejudice and No Payment in Pressure Ulcer Case](#)
[Obtained Compromised Verdict in Directed Liability Case Involving Nursing Home in Cook County](#)

[Renken Secures Defense Verdict for Nursing Home](#)

[Hospital Dismissed in Wrongful Death Case Involving Alleged Failure to Search for Weapon of Emergency Room Patient](#)

[Johnson and Renken Obtain Defense Verdict in Birth Injury Case -- \\$65 Million Sought](#)

[Defense Verdict Favors Emergency Medicine Physician in Alleged Failure to Diagnose Myocardial Infarction Dispute](#)

[Defense Verdict for Hospital. Plaintiff Alleged Improper Treatment of a Patient in Anaphylactic Shock.](#)

[Mistrial Declared after a "Hung Jury." Case Involved Complications of Gastric Bypass Surgery. Plaintiff sought \\$3.8M in damages.](#)

[Appellate Opinions](#)

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

PRESENTATIONS

"Wound Litigation: H.A.P.I.," Advocate Wound Care Conference, Oak Lawn, IL, October 4, 2022

"Legal Update: Wound Litigation in the Covid Era," Advocate Wound Care Conference. October 5, 2021

Moderator, "Hereditary Cancers: Current State of Medicine, Evolving Standard of Care, and Impact on Medical Malpractice Litigation," Genetics' Growing Interaction with the Law, May 19, 2021

Moderator, "The Medical Ethics of Genetics," Genetics' Growing Interaction with the Law, May 12, 2021

PUBLICATIONS

[Discovery Depositions Are Not Available For Media Use During Pending Litigation](#), Johnson & Bell, Ltd. Health Care Law Alert (Winter 2016)

[Arbitration Agreement in Nursing Home Case Held Invalid but Door Left Open for Future Arbitration Agreements to be Upheld](#), Johnson & Bell, Ltd. Health Care Law Alert (Fall 2011)

[Pressure Ulcers: Avoidable or Unavoidable?](#), Johnson & Bell, Ltd. Health Care Law Alert (Fall 2011)

And The Defense Wins, The Voice of the Defense Bar, DRI, (July 2011)

Survey of Wrongful Death Verdicts for the Very Young and Very Old, The National Law Review (April 2011)

Survey of Wrongful Death Verdicts for the Very Young and Very Old, Johnson & Bell, Ltd. Health Care Law Alert (Winter 2011)

Defending Medical Battery Claims, Johnson & Bell, Ltd. Health Care Law Alert (Winter 2010)

Examination of Hospital Board Member Liability and Corporate Negligence: Illinois Case Study, Volume 11, Issue 2 of Healthcare Liability & Litigation, American Health Lawyer Association (May 2009)

CMS Proposes Additions to List of Hospital Acquired Conditions or "Never Events", Johnson & Bell, Ltd Health Care Law Alert (Summer 2008)

Attorney's Fees Awarded Despite Being Disproportionate to Damages in Recent Nursing Home Cases, Johnson & Bell, Ltd. Health Care Law Alert (Summer 2007)

Agency Defense More Difficult After York v. Rush, Johnson & Bell, Ltd. Health Care Law Alert (Fall 2006)

Apparent Agency – Jury Instruction, Johnson & Bell, Ltd. Health Care Law Alert (Summer 2005)

Med Mal Bill Stalls in Senate, Johnson & Bell, Ltd. Health Care Law Alert (Spring 2005)

Reforms Impacting Insurance Market in Texas & Mississippi, Johnson & Bell, Ltd. Health Care Law Alert (Spring 2005)

