

SAMMI L. RENKEN

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SERVICE AREAS

[Business Litigation](#)

[Class Action](#)

[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.

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 class action disputes, data breach and cyber liability litigation, 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 2024, Ms. Renken was honored to be installed as Vice-President of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) for the Illinois Chapter, and named as an ABOTA National Board Member. ABOTA is a national organization of experienced trial lawyers and judges dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the civil jury trial right provided by the Seventh Amendment of the Constitution. 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 co-chair of the Healthcare group and co-chair of the firm's Women's Initiative. She 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 Supreme Court
U.S. District Court, Middle District of North Carolina
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana
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): Vice President of the Illinois Chapter 2024-2026; National Board Representative 2024-Present; Executive Committee Member 2021-Present; Membership Chair 2021-2024; Associate Member and Foundation Fellow 2016-Present

LA Bar Association, (Loyola Academy alumni and parents) 2024-present

The Society of Trial Lawyers, 2018 - Present

Advocate Health Care Wound Prevention and Management Committee, Member 2016-2020

Fellow, Trial Lawyer Honorary Society, Litigation Counsel of America, 2017- Present

Illinois Society of Healthcare Risk Management (ISHRM): President 2022-2023; 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 2014-2021

Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center Development Council: Charged with Securing Philanthropic Support for the Medical Center, Member 2013-2020

Marillac St. Vincent Family Services, a Catholic Charity that Focuses on Strengthening and Empowering Children and Families. Member of the Board of Trustees 2012-2016

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