

WILLIAM V. JOHNSON (1940-2022)

Co-Founder

info@jbltd.com

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William V. Johnson died on January 28, 2022 at the age of 82. Please read our [news announcement about his passing](#).

Mr. Johnson served as vice chairman of Johnson & Bell's Board of Directors. Mr. Johnson was an acclaimed litigator who tried many high-profile catastrophic injury and mass tort cases in Chicago, and across the United States. Since joining the firm in 1975, and becoming president in 1979, the firm has grown to more than 90 attorneys and gained a national reputation.

Mr. Johnson was a veteran trial attorney, who tried virtually every type of civil injury case and defended many commercial liability, professional liability and trade secrets cases. He recently helped win a defense verdict from a Cook County, Ill., jury in favor of the University of Chicago Medical Center, following a two-week medical negligence trial in which damages in excess of \$45 million were sought. For their efforts, Mr. Johnson and his litigation team won the Outstanding Defense Verdict Award- Medical Malpractice at the 2012 *Jury Verdict Reporter* Trial Lawyer Awards.

That was just one of the many accolades he's received. Others include: *The Best Lawyers in America* since 1989, *Who's Who in American Law* since 1987 and *The International Who's Who of Product Liability Defense Lawyers*. He was a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, the International Society of Barristers and the American College of Trial Lawyers, among other groups, and was a past president of the Chicago Society of Trial Lawyers.

Read our profile of "[The Quarterback](#)" – part of our "Originals" series celebrating Johnson & Bell's 40th Anniversary.

CLIENT RESULTS

[First District Appellate Court Affirms Summary Judgment in Favor of Forest Preserve District](#)

[Johnson and Johnson Obtain Defense Verdict for Hospital in HIV Transplant Case – Plaintiff Sought \\$45 Million](#)

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

[William V. Johnson Obtains Verdict in Favor of Chicago Medical Center, Obstetrician in Birth Injury Case](#)