

PAT MORRIS

Shareholder / Chairman

morrisp@jbltd.com

T +1 312-984-0244

F +1 312-372-9818



Cynthia Esquilin

esquilinc@jbltd.com

SERVICE AREAS

[Toxic Tort](#)

[Product Liability](#)

[Class Action](#)

INDUSTRY SECTORS

[Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices](#)



H. Patrick Morris concentrates his practice in First Amendment/ Media litigation, business litigation, class actions, products liability (including drug and medical device) litigation, foodborne illness litigation, and toxic tort claims, as well as the investigation, and trial of regulatory matters (including OSHA hearings and investigations). He serves as chairman of the firm's Board of Directors.

In November 2023, Mr. Morris was one of just four alumni featured in Chicago Kent College of Law's Magazine dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the school's nationally-ranked Trial Advocacy Team—a program producing more than 400 lawyers in the last four decades. [Click here to download the full article.](#)

A former adjunct law professor with Illinois Institute of Technology/Chicago-Kent College of Law, Mr. Morris has taught intensive clinical training in trial advocacy, and frequently lectures on various subjects, having spoken at or chaired many educational seminars. His peers have nominated him for an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

He has been consistently recognized in Illinois Super Lawyers and Leading Lawyers. In 2023, Mr. Morris was recognized by the Best Lawyers in America and in 2025 he was recognized by the [Irish Legal 100](#) -- an annual compilation of the most distinguished legal professionals in the U.S. who share a common bond: their Irish heritage.

In 2012, Mr. Morris was [honored with the Sheryl J. Willert Pioneer Diversity Award](#), for his dedication to the cause of diversity in the bar. In 2023 he also received the Advocate for Diversity Award from the Diversity Scholarship Foundation at the Unity Awards Gala.

Mr. Morris was elected to the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) and also belongs to several law organizations, including the Defense Research Institute (Board of Directors 2001-2006), the Society of Trial Lawyers Illinois (Board of

Directors 2001-2003), the International Association of Defense Counsel, and the Society for Chemical Hazard Communication. Mr. Morris is admitted to practice in Illinois, Indiana and Missouri.

ADMISSIONS & EDUCATION

ADMISSIONS

Illinois Supreme Court

Missouri Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit

Federal Trial Bar, Northern District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Indiana

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana

U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri

U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri

EDUCATION

Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago-Kent College of Law, J.D., 1983

Tulane University, University of Illinois, B.A., 1979

HONORS

AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell

Sheryl J. Willert Pioneer Diversity Award

"Super Lawyer" (Entertainment & Sports, Class Action & Mass Torts), Illinois Super Lawyers 2006, 2009, 2010-2013, 2015-2018, 2026

Leading Lawyers 2004-2022

Best Lawyers, 2023-2026

CLIENT RESULTS

[Representing ExxonMobil in Climate Change Litigation](#)

[Medline Industries, Inc. Ethylene Oxide Litigation \(Current\)](#)

[Toxic Tort Litigation](#)

[Defamation and First Amendment Litigation](#)

[Seventh Circuit Bars "Every Exposure" and "Cumulative Exposure" Theory of Causation](#)

[Johnson & Bell Secures Not Guilty Verdict in Case Alleging Asbestos Exposure](#)

[Commercial Litigation](#)

[Class Action](#)

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

PRESENTATIONS

[JohnsonAndBell.com](#)

Moderator, Genetics' Growing Interaction with the Law - Mesothelioma, BAP1, and Genetic Susceptibility, a presentation by Dennis Paustenbach, PhD, DABT, Paustenbach and Associates, July 14, 2021

The Defense Asbestos Litigation Seminar: DALs 2015 June 3-5, 2015 at The Four Seasons Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. "Recent Verdicts-2015"

Program Co-Chair, "Oil Spill Litigation and Emerging Issues Seminar, Defense Research Institute," The Houstonian Hotel, Houston, TX, August 12 -13, 2010

Program chair of "Challenges Facing Corporate America 2008," a Defense Research Institute, Corporate Counsel Roundtable; also moderated "Emerging New Theories of Corporate Environmental Liability-Climate Change and Public Nuisance Litigation," 2008

Committee Chair, Defense Research Institute Toxic Torts and Environmental Law Seminar, 2000, and Moderator, "Keeping the Gloves On: Small Players versus Manufacturers in the Large Toxic Case — How to Resolve the Conflict, Defense Research Institute Toxic Torts and Environmental Law seminar," 2000

Speaker, "Strategies for Defending Mold Lawsuits," American Insurance Association's Emerging Trends Conference: Mold-The Challenge Ahead, May 20-21, 2002, McLean, Va.

Speaker, "All Industry Forum on Mold," National Association of Independent Insurers, Oct. 9, 2001

Speaker, Interactive Voir Dire – "Trial of the Case that has Already Been Tried in the Media," DRI Annual Meeting 2001, Oct. 5, 2001, Chicago

Program Co-Chair and Speaker, "Cutting Edge Issues in Mold Litigation and Initial Handling of a Mold Claim," Mealey's National Mold Litigation Conference, Oct. 1-2, 2001, Chicago

Speaker, Updates – "Toxic Tort and Environmental Issues and Verdict Summaries" (Solvents, Pesticides, Hazardous Chemicals, Irritants, Hazardous Waste and Asbestos), Defense Research Institute Toxic Tort and Environmental Law Seminar, March 8-9, 2001, New Orleans

Seminar Chair and Speaker, "The Dose-Response Requirement in Mold-Sick-Building and Building-Related Illness Claims," Mealey's Mold Litigation Conference, February 8-9, 2001, Philadelphia

Speaker, "Lead 101 and How to Value Lead Cases," 2000 Mealey's, October 18-19, 2000, St Louis

Speaker and Program Chair, "Keeping the Gloves On: Small Players versus Manufactures in the Large Toxic Case - How to Resolve the Conflict," Defense Research Institute Toxic Torts and Environmental Law Seminar, March 2, 2000

Speaker, "Neuropsychological Testing and Testimony," Mealey's Midwest Lead Litigation Conference (Co-Chair), October 10, 1996, Chicago

Speaker, "Tort Law Update," Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel Spring Meeting, March 2, 1996, Chicago

Speaker, "Defending Chemical Exposure Toxic Tort Claims," Society for Chemical Hazard Communication Fall Meeting, October 17, 1995, Arlington, Va.

Speaker, "Proving or Defending Lead, Repetitive Stress Injury, Medical Device, Pharmaceutical and Brain Damage Cases," Practicing Law Institute: The Defense of Lead Paint Cases, September 21, 1995, broadcast live via satellite, New York

Speaker, "Cross-Examination of Plaintiff's Neuropsychologist," 1995 Mealeys' National Lead Litigation Conference, May 4-5, 1995, Philadelphia

Speaker, "Presenting the Defendant for Deposition," Illinois Trial Lawyers Association Shotgun Seminar, February 4, 1995, Urbana, Ill.

Speaker, "Cross-Examination of Plaintiff's Rehabilitation Witness, Effective Direct and Cross-Examination of Expert Witnesses,"

Chicago Bar Association, January 9, 1995, Chicago

PUBLICATIONS

"Are Plaintiff's Class Action Lawyers Already Setting Up Shop for Violations of New CFPB Rules?" Johnson & Bell Business Newsletter, 2013

"Gulf Coast Residents Sue BP, Nalco for Dispersant Exposure," Chemical Week, August 2-9, 2010

"Illinois Appellate Court Reverses Trial Court: Madison County Asbestos Case Does Not Belong in Illinois," DRI In the Voice: Legal News, September 22, 2010