

CHARLES P. RANTIS

Shareholder

rantisc@jbltd.com

T +1 312-984-0231

F +1 312-372-9818



Jeannette Sica

sicaj@jbltd.com

SERVICE AREAS

[Complex / Catastrophic](#)

[General Negligence](#)

[Product Liability](#)

[Mediation](#)

INDUSTRY SECTORS

[Construction](#)

[Aviation](#)



Charles P. Rantis concentrates his practice in product liability, construction litigation, premises liability, transportation litigation, and defending public utilities. A seasoned litigator, Mr. Rantis has successfully defended manufacturers of ladders, construction equipment, fire trucks, power tools, coil processing equipment, and electrical components.

Companies often retain Mr. Rantis for their most complex litigation matters, including lawsuits involving serious personal injury, traumatic brain injury, and death. He also has successfully represented owners, general contractors, and subcontractors in construction negligence cases. Clients appreciate Mr. Rantis' ability to comprehend and explain highly technical information to judge and jury in a compelling and understandable manner.

Mr. Rantis' skill as a litigator has been continually recognized over the past 10 years. In 2011, Mr. Rantis, along with John W. Bell, co-founder of Johnson & Bell, received a Trial Lawyer Excellence Award for receiving a "not guilty" verdict in a federal products liability case where the plaintiff sought up to \$18 million in damages. His peers have also recognized him with an AV rating from [Martindale-Hubbell](#). In addition, he has been named an *Illinois Super Lawyer* multiple times over the past decade and an *Illinois Leading Lawyer*. In 2023 and 2024, Mr. Rantis was recognized by the *Best Lawyers in America*. Mr. Rantis has also published a number of well-regarded articles on various aspects of trial practice, including [Essentials of Demonstrative Evidence](#), [Product Liability Case Evaluation and Trial Strategy Considerations](#), and [Wilson v. Clark - Its Use and Ramifications](#).

ADMISSIONS & EDUCATION

ADMISSIONS

Illinois Supreme Court

U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Indiana

EDUCATION

Chicago-Kent College of Law, J.D., 1985

DePaul University, B.S., 1982

HONORS

Illinois Super Lawyers 2006-2008, 2010-2024

AV rating, Martindale-Hubbell

Illinois Leading Lawyers, 2014-2019, 2021, 2022

Best Lawyers in America, 2023-2024

CLIENT RESULTS

[Michigan Appellate Court Affirms Summary Judgment Snuffing Out Plaintiff's \\$50M Product Liability Demand in Rooftop Blaze](#)

[Rantis Secures Dismissal with Prejudice in Speedway Spectator Accident](#)

[With Settlement Offer on Table, Plaintiff Heads to Trial to Win... Less](#)

[Seeking \\$1.4M in Damages for Alleged Injuries. Plaintiff Feels Pain of Defense Verdict](#)

[Seventh Circuit Affirms Summary Judgment for Ladder Manufacturer](#)

[Appellate Court Clarifies and Affirms Economic Loss Doctrine in Dismissal of Tort Claims](#)

[In Product Liability Trial, Rantis Obtains Defense Verdict for Louisville Ladder](#)

[Bell and Rantis Obtain Defense Verdict in Brain Injury Case Against Major Ladder Manufacturer. Plaintiff Sought \\$18 Million.](#)

[Worker Died of Heart Attack, Not Electrocutation](#)

[Published Opinions](#)

[Plaintiff Claims Lingering Brain Injury, But Jury Opt's for Defense Verdict](#)

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

["Essentials of Demonstrative Evidence," IDC Quarterly, Volume 28, Third Quarter, 2018.](#)

["Seat Belt Evidence Inadmissible? Not So Fast," IDC Quarterly, Volume 27, Fourth Quarter, 2017.](#)

["Wilson v. Clark - Its Use and its Ramifications," IDC Quarterly, Volume 27, First Quarter, 2017.](#)

["Expert Discovery: A Primer on Depositions of Liability Experts in Non-Medical Cases," IDC Quarterly, Volume 26, First Quarter,](#)

2016.

"Product Liability Case Evaluation and Trial Strategy Considerations," Product Liability Perspectives, Volume 8, Issue 2, Summer 2012 (pgs 23-30).

"Product Liability Case Evaluation and Trial Strategy Considerations," IDC Quarterly, Volume 22, Fourth Quarter, 2012.

"Evidence of Post-Manufacture Design Changes and the New Illinois Civil Justice Reform Act of 1995," IDC Quarterly, Volume 6, First Quarter, 1996