



Thomas W. Hill

Director



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Powerful Advocacy

Tom maintains a renowned litigation practice representing businesses and individuals in all aspects of complex litigation. He is one of Ohio's most respected and experienced litigators and has consistently received accolades for his work as a trial lawyer.

- + **2019, 2018:** Tom continues to receive the ranking of a Band 1 attorney in Litigation from *Chambers USA*, now one of only seven attorneys in Ohio to do so. *Chambers* describes him as offering "keen insights and outstanding representation in high-value commercial disputes, calling upon a long track record of success in the area."
- + **2017, 2016:** Tom was ranked as a Band 1 attorney in Litigation by *Chambers USA*, *Chambers'* highest ranking. Tom is one of only eight business litigators in all of Ohio to receive *Chambers'* Band 1 rating in 2016. *Chambers* stated: "Impressed clients refer to him as 'the definition of thoroughness.'" This is the third year in a row that Tom has received a Band 1 rating from *Chambers*.
- + **2015, 2014:** Tom's Band 1 rankings by *Chambers* in 2014 and 2015 were accompanied by the following editorial comment from *Chambers*: "The very, very impressive Hill has more than 35 years' experience in business litigation and intellectual property disputes. He recently acted on a dispute arising from a merger; the case concluded successfully with a verdict worth \$18 million." Tom was one of seven Ohio lawyers ranked as Band 1 in 2015 and 2014.
- + **2013:** Tom was ranked as one of the top five litigators in Columbus. He was featured in Columbus CEO magazine in its April 2013 issue.

These accolades are the result of a number of hallmarks of Tom's practice. First, Tom has always believed that clients come first. Their interests drive his work, and achieving their goals in the most efficient and effective way is his "north star." To achieve the client's goals, Tom stays in close contact with every client every step of the way. Second, Tom believes that powerful advocacy is the product of a thorough understanding of the facts and the law presented to a court or jury in a way that is both logically sound and pleasing in tone. Third, Tom believes that powerful advocacy is what brings about favorable settlements. Tom keeps a constant eye out for opportunities to resolve cases short of trial, if that can be reasonably done.

Representative Cases

Tom concentrates on the representation of business clients of all sizes, including Fortune 500 companies and nonprofit agencies. In November 2012, he obtained an \$18 million judgment in favor of his clients against a publicly traded company arising out of a breach of merger agreement. He has obtained a \$20 million settlement on behalf of a publicly traded company against an investment banking firm for breach of fiduciary duty. He successfully defended a Fortune 100 company in a \$500 million claim that was tried to a jury in federal court. In a widely-publicized national dispute, he represented Donatos Pizza Inc. in successful prosecution of trademark infringement claim involving Donatos' "Edge to Edge" trademark. He successfully defended a pension fund in a lawsuit in federal court that had industry-wide implications for the trucking industry. He obtained summary judgment for McDonald's Corporation in a race discrimination employment case in federal court in Columbus. He defended The Ohio State University in a lawsuit brought by the survivors of a college freshman who was killed in an elevator accident on the university campus.

Professional Affiliations

- + American College of Trial Lawyers, National Moot Court Competition Committee, national chairman
- + American Inns of Court, Duncan chapter, past member
- + Columbus Bar Foundation, immediate past president
- + Litigation Counsel of America, fellow

Bar Admissions

- + Ohio
- + U.S. Supreme Court
- + U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- + U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio

Education

- + Cornell University Law School (J.D., 1970)
- + Grinnell College (B.A., 1967)