



Edward S. Bott, Jr.

Partner | Co-Group Leader, Product Liability

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For more than four decades, Ed has represented a spectrum of manufacturers against claims of product liability, and numerous hospitals and healthcare providers in defense of claims of medical negligence. Ed has significant trial experience and a strong track record representing these manufacturers and health care providers in local, regional, and national litigation.

His product liability clients have included manufacturers in the automotive, tire, trucking, motorcycle, industrial products, friction products, pharmaceutical, medical device, and consumer products industries. He is trial counsel for an 11-state region for a major tire manufacturer and has served as national coordinating counsel for a St. Louis-based medical device manufacturer.

Ed's national reputation in product liability has resulted in leadership roles, including as a sustaining member of the Product Liability Advisory Council and a former chair of the Automotive Subcommittee to the Product Liability Section of the American Bar Association. He is active with the International Association of Defense Counsel.

Ed has represented hospitals and physicians for four decades and handles medical negligence claims for more than seven hospitals in Illinois and Missouri. He has extensive experience in cases involving diverse health care issues, including birth-related injuries and resuscitation, emergency medicine, neurosurgery, neurology, surgery, and radiology, to name a few. As counsel to certain hospitals, Ed advises on issues involving policies and procedures, risk management, quality, and credentialing.

Ed has also represented corporations large and small in the defense of employment discrimination claims and lawsuits, with experience handling cases based on age, sex, gender, retaliation, and disability discrimination. He is an approved panel counsel on employment claims for a major insurer.

In his spare time, Ed enjoys golf, fitness, and spending time with his family.

Education

- Duke University School of Law (A.B., 1977)

Practices & Industries

- Health Care
- Product Liability
- Manufacturing
- Medical Malpractice
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Health Care Litigation
- Health Care & Regulated Industries
- Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Litigation
- Product Liability Litigation – Manufactured Products & Consumer Goods

- Western New England University (J.D., 1980)

Bar Admissions

- Missouri
- Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court, District South Dakota
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court

Professional Affiliations

- International Association of Defense Counsel
- Illinois State Bar Association
- The Missouri Bar Association
- Product Liability Advisory Council (PLAC)

Firm Involvement

- Co-Group Leader, Product Liability

Awards & Honors

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Medical Malpractice Law, (2015-2026)
- AV Preeminent®, Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Ratings

Experience

- Obtained two defense verdicts on behalf of a tire manufacturer in trials over plaintiff's claims related to motorcycle crashes: one in which plaintiffs in Washington state sought more than \$25 million after a motorcycle accident that caused serious brain injury and one in which the family of a Wisconsin man killed in a Wyoming motorcycle crash alleged tire defects had caused the fatal incident.
- Obtained summary judgment for a tire manufacturer in a case pending in the U.S.D.C., Northern District of Indiana after successfully excluding Plaintiff's liability expert under *Daubert* principles. The case was affirmed by the Seventh Circuit. *Timm v. Goodyear Dunlop Tires North America Ltd.*
- Obtained a defense verdict on behalf of a hospital system and two neurosurgeons in a multimillion-dollar wrongful-death medical malpractice case.
- Obtained a defense verdict for a major tractor-trailer manufacturer over allegations of design defects in the back of cab access, causing serious injuries to the operator.

- Won a defense verdict in a case involving an alleged design defect in the operator seat and suspension system of a shuttle car used to haul coal in underground mining operations. This result ultimately led the plaintiff's counsel to abandon another 50 cases involving the same product and design theories.
- Obtained a defense verdict on behalf of an automotive manufacturer in a trial involving claims that defects in design and manufacture led to a crash that caused injuries to the plaintiff and the death of the plaintiff's spouse.
- Obtained a defense verdict after a plaintiff alleged burn injuries due to the faulty design of a consumer product.
- Obtained a defense verdict for an Illinois hospital in a claim brought on behalf of a fetus alleging injuries and total damages over \$10 million as a result of the exposure in utero to I-131 iodine used to diagnose thyroid cancer in the mother.
- Obtained a defense verdict for an Illinois hospital and emergency physician in a claim alleging delay in treatment caused the death of a 50-year-old woman.
- Defended Exxon in a workers' compensation retaliatory discharge claim that was removed to federal court. A jury found in favor of Exxon. On appeal, the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals held that a workers' compensation retaliatory discharge claim does not arise under Illinois' workers' compensation laws and is thereby not barred from removal by 28 USC §1445(c). The plaintiff petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court for leave to appeal, which was denied. *Spearman V. Exxon Coal USA, Inc.*, 16 F. 3d 722 (7th Circuit, 1994).
- A trial court granted summary judgment to Exxon Coal on a plaintiff's claim that the company's drug and alcohol policy violated his rights under the ADA. The trial court decision was affirmed by the 7th Circuit. *Huels v. Exxon Coal USA, Inc.*, 121 F. 3d 1047 (7th Circuit, 1997).
- Defended Exxon Coal after two former employees brought a suit alleging age discrimination as part of a reduction in force. Before and through the course of a five-week jury trial, Exxon Coal was awarded summary judgment on several of the plaintiffs' claims. The jury found that the plaintiffs were not terminated because of their age. The 7th Circuit affirmed the lower court decisions in their entirety. *Sauzek v. Exxon Coal USA, Inc.* 202 F. 3d 913 (7th Circuit, 2000).
- Defended Kmart in a lawsuit brought by a former employee alleging retaliatory discharge as a result of whistleblower activity. The district court granted summary judgment to the employer. The 7th Circuit affirmed on appeal. *Bourbon v. Kmart Corp.*, 2000 WL 109216 4 (7th Circuit, 2000).

Reported Cases

- *Timm v. Goodyear Dunlop Tires North America Ltd.*, 932 F.3d 986 (7th Circuit, 2019)
- *Bourbon v. Kmart Corp.*, 2000 WL 109216 4 (7th Circuit, 2000)
- *Sauzek v. Exxon Coal USA, Inc.* 202 F. 3d 913 (7th Circuit, 2000)
- *Huels v. Exxon Coal USA, Inc.*, 121 F. 3d 1047 (7th Circuit, 1997)
- *Spearman V. Exxon Coal USA, Inc.*, 16 F. 3d 722 (7th Circuit, 1994)

News & Media

August 21, 2025

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August 15, 2024

UB Greensfelder Attorneys Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America® 2025 List

August 17, 2023

Best Lawyers 2024 Edition Lists 66 Greensfelder Attorneys, Including Five “Lawyers Of The Year”

August 18, 2022

Best Lawyers 2023 Edition Lists Over 60 Greensfelder Attorneys, Including Five St. Louis ‘Lawyers Of The Year’

August 19, 2021

Best Lawyers 2022 Edition Lists 60 Greensfelder Attorneys, Including Three St. Louis ‘Lawyers Of The Year’