



Danielle R. Luisi

PARTNER

THE LINK VIRTUAL

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OVERVIEW

Danielle defends product liability, premises liability, toxic tort and environmental claims.

Product manufacturers, contractors and premises owners in complex litigation in state and federal court in Illinois and Missouri rely on Danielle's representation. Serving as part of national coordinating counsel and trial teams for corporations in toxic tort litigation, Danielle has been instrumental in formulating defense strategies and managing cases in some of the nation's busiest mass tort jurisdictions on behalf of a diverse group of clients. Through her strong advocacy, effective motion practice and trial preparation, Danielle secures dismissals and cost-effective resolutions in the overwhelming majority of cases.

Danielle also has significant trial experience as a former prosecutor in the civil and criminal bureaus of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. In addition to successfully trying cases to verdict, she also defended appeals before the Illinois Appellate Court, First District.

Clients retain Danielle for her proven success in courtroom advocacy and cost-effective case management for high-risk litigation. An effective communicator, Danielle simultaneously defends client interests and delivers superior client service, making sure clients understand legal strategies and courses of action.

Industries

Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Asbestos Litigation
Product Liability
Product Safety
Toxic Tort

Experience

- Defended international steel company, as part of larger trial team, in product liability, premises liability, Federal Employment Liability Act (FELA) and Jones Act cases involving toxic exposures in jurisdictions including Cook County, Madison County and McLean County, Illinois; and City of St. Louis, Missouri.
- Served on national coordinating counsel team for equipment manufacturer strategically managing defense of product liability and premises claims involving asbestos exposure in Illinois and multiple other jurisdictions across the country including in California, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Maryland and Hawaii.
- Served on national coordinating counsel team for home improvement product manufacturer managing and executing defense of asbestos litigation throughout Illinois and in various active state and federal jurisdictions including Pennsylvania, Texas, Georgia, Florida, New Jersey and New York.
- Instrumental in formulating national defense strategy for local product manufacturer's pending asbestos claims in Illinois and Missouri, including successfully drafting motion for summary judgment based on corporate dissolution, which led to favorable ruling against plaintiff and dismissal of remaining cases on docket.
- Achieved dismissal for premises client prior to hearing on motion for summary judgment based on state of Ohio's statutory bar of take-home asbestos exposure claims despite decedent, her father, and her husband working at client's premises.
- Secured dismissal prior to jury selection for heating equipment manufacturer in asbestos matter pending in Cook County, Illinois, based on insufficient evidence of exposure, despite record of sales of asbestos-containing equipment to work site at issue, including successfully drafting motion for summary judgment and pre-trial motions.

Experience

- Achieved early dismissal for equipment manufacturer in asbestos case before hearing on motion to transfer under doctrine of *forum non conveniens* to Winnebago County, Illinois, from Cook County, Illinois, based on place of injury and weight of private and public interest factors favoring transfer.
- Executed defense strategy and achieved dismissal for local product manufacturer in asbestos matter pending in Madison County, Illinois, including successfully drafting motion for application of Texas law and motion for summary judgment under Texas law, which led to favorable ruling granting application of Texas substantive law and barring plaintiff from introducing any new expert opinions not previously disclosed.
- Argued and prevailed in opposition to plaintiff's motion to continue final trial setting on behalf of product manufacturer in asbestos matter pending in Madison County, Illinois, after judge found lack of exigent circumstances and denied plaintiff's motion.
- Obtained dismissal for contractor client in asbestos case based on successor liability defense by establishing that client was not liable for entity at issue, based on extensive investigation into corporate history and corporate document review.
- Secured dismissal in asbestos case for employer-contractor client based on workers' compensation exclusivity provision and successor liability defense by establishing that client was not liable for entity at issue.
- Argued and prevailed as appointed pro bono counsel on motion for sanctions before federal judge, who granted sanctions for party's failure to participate in good faith at settlement conference.

Recognition

- Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, Mass Tort Litigation/Class Action - Defendants, Product Liability Litigation - Defendants, 2021-2024
- Illinois Defense Counsel, Rising Star, 2021
- *Illinois Super Lawyers*, Rising Star, 2020-2023

Education

- J.D., Loyola University Chicago School of Law
 - Dean's List
 - CALI Award, Highest Grade, Advocacy
 - Philip H. Corboy Fellowship in Trial Advocacy
 - Texas Young Lawyer's Association National Trial Competition, National Quarterfinalist, Midwest Regional Finalist
 - National Association Criminal Defense Lawyers Trial Competition, National Semifinalist
 - Michigan State University National Trial Competition, National Semifinalist
- B.A., Washington & Jefferson College
 - Political Science and Business Administration
 - *summa cum laude*
 - Dean's List
 - Political Science Distinguished Service Award
 - Pi Sigma Alpha – National Political Science Honor Society

Admissions

- Illinois
- Michigan
- Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

*Contact Danielle to set up an in-person consultation by appointment in the Chicago office.



2024 Best Lawyers Ones to
Watch