

Agenda

Understanding Illinois Personal Injury Law

K. McCarthy

- The development of personal injury law in Illinois
- Statutes and regulations that affect liability law
- An overview of liability law in different types of personal injury cases
 - Automobile accident
 - Slip-and-fall
 - Medical malpractice
 - Product liability
- The law of damages
- Recent developments and anticipated changes in Illinois law

Investigating and Evaluating a Personal Injury Claim

I. Alexander

- Obtaining information from/about the plaintiff
- Using (and not using) investigators
- Identifying and locating parties and witnesses
- Investigating/documenting the incident
- Interviewing witnesses
- Obtaining information on damages
- Identifying and obtaining other relevant information
- Helpful resources

Handling Ethical Issues in Personal Injury Practice

O. Banks

- Maintaining client confidentiality
- Avoiding conflicts of interest
- Avoiding the unauthorized practice of law
- Communicating with clients, the court and opposing counsel

Litigating Personal Injury Cases

S. DeSalvo

- Drafting, filing and serving initial pleadings
- Participating in the discovery process
 - Drafting admissions, interrogatories and requests for production of documents
 - Responding to discovery requests
- Deposition practice: preparing for, attending and reviewing
- Working with expert witnesses
- Preparing for and assisting at trial

Assisting with Medical Issues in Personal Injury and Workers' Compensation Cases

M. Niles

- Obtaining and reviewing medical records
- Finding and working with medical experts

Illinois Personal Injury Practice for Paralegals

Live, Interactive Webinar - Tuesday, February 18, 2025

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Illinois Personal Injury Practice for Paralegals

Live, Interactive Webinar - Tuesday, February 18, 2025



Learn about the development of personal injury law in Illinois

Understand how to investigate and evaluate personal injury claims

Work on drafting initial pleadings and responding to discovery requests

Get tips on working with medical records and medical experts

Identify and avoid common ethical issues in personal injury cases

Continuing Education Credits

Paralegals

6.5 CLE Hours (Incl. 1.25 Ethics Hours)

National Federation of Paralegal Associations (NFPA)

6.5 CLE Credits (Incl. 1.25 Ethics Credits)



Webinar Information

Online - Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Log into Webinar

8:00 - 8:30 am CST

Break

11:45 am - 12:15 pm CST

Morning Session

8:30 - 11:45 am CST

Afternoon Session

12:15 - 4:00 pm CST

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Faculty

Kristin Barnette McCarthy *SCHWARTZ | JAMBOIS in Chicago, IL*

Ms. McCarthy is a trial attorney at Schwartz Jambois and focuses her practice in the areas of personal injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice, nursing home abuse and neglect, as well as other catastrophic injuries. She has tried in excess of 100 jury trials to verdict, has successfully argued and achieved reversal before the 7th Circuit United States Court of Appeals, as well as in the First District Appellate Court, and obtained hundreds of settlements for both individual and corporate clients. Ms. McCarthy is a leader in the Chicago legal community. In 2020, she was named to the highly-selective Illinois Super Lawyers list, and voted as #1 of the "Top 10 Emerging Lawyers" and also voted as #1 of the "Top 10 Emerging Women Lawyers" by her peers in a survey conducted by Leading Lawyers. Ms. McCarthy was named by Crain's as one of the "Most Influential Women Lawyers in Chicago" in 2017, as an "Emerging Lawyer," in 2016, and one of the "40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch" in 2014 by the *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*.

Ian R. Alexander *Goldberg & Goldberg in Chicago, IL*

Since 1995, Mr. Alexander has proudly represented the victims of negligence. He only represents those people who are injured, mostly by big corporations and hospitals. He is proudest of his work representing children who have been injured at birth and have been left with profound brain damage and his work representing the victims of sexual abuse. Mr. Alexander concentrates his practice on representing the victims of catastrophic injuries in the areas of medical malpractice and complex personal injury litigation.

Olaide A. Banks *Banks & Associates in Houston, TX*

Mr. Banks is the principal attorney at Banks & Associates, PLLC, a Houston-based law firm focused on meeting the needs of government and construction contractors throughout Texas. He is a trusted advisor for licensed professionals, CEOs and managers in construction firms, and government contractors. Mr. Banks was licensed as a CPA in 2003 and has more than 20 years of experience as a lead accountant and CFO for successful government contractors. He earned his B.B.A. degree with a double major in Accounting and Finance from the Bauer College of Business at the University of Houston and secured his J.D. degree from South Texas College of Law. Mr. Banks is a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Association of Corporate Counsel and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). He is a member of the Construction Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.

Scott D. DeSalvo *Law Office of Scott D. DeSalvo, LLC, in Oak Brook, IL*

Mr. DeSalvo, a Chicago native and DePaul University graduate, has been a fiercely independent plaintiff's personal injury lawyer for more than 25 years. He is the son of a catastrophically injured truck driver whose injury case dragged on for more than 17 years and has dedicated his career to fighting for the rights of injured people. A real trial lawyer, Mr. DeSalvo is a graduate of the Gerry Spence "Trial Lawyers College", as well as the prestigious "The Keenan Edge" advanced programs for trial lawyers, post-law school curricula than not one in 100,000 lawyers has mastered. He brings his working class work ethic and a 'tell it like it is' approach to the thousands of clients he has helped, and continues to help from his Oak Brook and Chicago offices.

Martha Niles *The Illinois Hammer Injury Attorneys in Chicago, IL*

Ms. Niles has handled over 4,000 cases throughout her career, where she fought tooth and nail to achieve the best settlements possible for her clients. She has gone to trial nearly 300 times and boasts an impressive 93% winning record in appealed cases. She is one of the hardest working women in Illinois, evident from the beginning of her law career when she put herself through law school at IIT-Chicago Kent College of Law. During Ms. Niles's very first job out of law school, she tried the Smith Case that became the seminal reference for the proposition that an employer cannot create a job and artificially inflate a wage just to avoid paying an 8(d)(1) wage differential. From there she has gained over 24 years of experience, working on both sides of workers' compensation law. Her experience provides insight into how the defense thinks and allows her to anticipate their arguments, thus making her clients' cases stronger in advance.

Credit Information

This webinar is open to the public and is designed to qualify for 6.5 CLE hours, including 1.25 ethics hours, for paralegals. Paralegal certification is not required to participate in this course.

The National Federation of Paralegal Associations (NFPA) has approved this webinar for 6.5 total CLE credits, which includes 5.25 general CLE credits and 1.25 ethics CLE credits.

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