

Firm Overview

For fifty years, clients have called upon the trial lawyers of Williams Montgomery & John to vigorously and diligently represent their interests in high-stakes litigation. Few law firms have more actual trial experience than Williams Montgomery & John. We take great pride in being "A Firm of Trial Lawyers."

Our lawyers have extensive jury trial, bench trial and arbitration experience involving breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, professional malpractice, products liability, defective construction, intellectual property, insurance bad faith and white collar litigation. CBS Corporation named Williams Montgomery & John as its "go to" law firm in Illinois for commercial disputes (*Corporate Counsel*, 2012), and other large corporations such as 3M, Goodyear, Siemens, IBM, Genentech, Whirlpool and Zurich Insurance Company have relied on our unwavering advocacy.

In the tort defense area, our trial attorneys have achieved defense verdicts in numerous complex product liability, toxic tort, personal injury and wrongful death matters, a number of which have been recognized by *The National Law Journal*. As a result of our vast experience and stellar track record, we have been retained as national and regional trial counsel for more than 60 corporate clients, including Ford, Fisher-Price, Black & Decker, General Electric, Chevron, Goodyear, and Bausch & Lomb.

The name partners of Williams Montgomery & John are nationally known trial attorneys and members of the prestigious International Academy of Trial Lawyers. Barry Montgomery and Peter John are listed in *Best Lawyers in America* for Commercial Litigation and Bet-the-Company Litigation. Seven of the firm's attorneys have been selected by their peers for inclusion in Illinois Super Lawyers.

We work closely with all of our clients to ensure that their goals and expectations are met. We believe that early, aggressive and thorough preparation is essential to achieving the best results. We are passionate about what we do and our passion is reflected in the results that we achieve for our clients.

[Antitrust](#)

The firm has substantial experience both prosecuting and defending complex, nationwide antitrust actions in which our clients have either suffered millions of dollars of losses arising from anticompetitive activity or are themselves facing potentially catastrophic liability. Given the complexity and often enormous stakes involved in antitrust litigation, trials of such cases are very rare. It thus speaks volumes that three of our partners have tried antitrust cases to conclusion, and that in each case the jury has returned a verdict in our client's favor.

[Appellate](#)

The firm maintains a highly skilled appellate practice group to protect our clients' trial court victories and work to overturn unfavorable rulings. Our appellate attorneys have briefed and argued cases in state and federal appellate courts throughout the United States. Our appellate

attorneys work closely with the firm's trial lawyers to assist with pleadings, jury instruction conferences and briefing of critical motions.

Class Action & MDL Litigation

As a highly regarded civil defense firm, Williams Montgomery & John represents major corporate clients in complex, high-stakes class action and multidistrict litigation around the country. The firm's attorneys have served as national or regional trial counsel in product liability, mass tort and commercial class action matters. We have successfully resolved class actions through decertification, dismissal and settlement.

Commercial Litigation

Clients call upon our experienced trial lawyers to provide resolute and effective advocacy in business and financial disputes. Our commercial litigators have extensive jury trial, bench trial and arbitration experience in complex commercial litigation involving multimillion-dollar claims for breach of contract, construction delays, consumer fraud, insurance bad faith, unfair business practices, fiduciary duty and officer and director litigation.

Construction

The firm represents contractors, engineers, architects, owners and consultants in commercial lawsuits involving claims for construction defects, negligent design and delayed completion, as well as liability lawsuits arising from construction worksite accidents. Our attorneys have tried cases in the courts and before arbitration panels involving the construction of office and residential buildings, power plants, distribution facilities, and public works and retail projects.

Employment

Businesses turn to Williams Montgomery & John for our track record of success in disposing of employment lawsuits through motions, mediations, arbitrations or trials. The firm's employment attorneys combine substantive knowledge of employment law with trial experience to achieve the desired results for our clients.

Insurance

Our attorneys defend insurance companies against bad faith, consumer fraud and breach of contract claims. We also prosecute and defend declaratory judgment actions and provide coverage opinions for claims arising from directors and officers, professional and general liability, and other types of insurance policies.

Intellectual Property

In the intellectual property area, the firm has successfully prosecuted and defended infringement, misappropriation and unfair competition claims involving patents, trademarks, trade dress, copyrights and trade secrets. We have taken many cases to verdict as lead trial counsel in both jury and bench trials nationwide and have argued appeals in State and Federal Appeals Courts.

Product Liability

We defend manufacturers, distributors and retailers against product liability claims based on negligence, strict product liability and breach of warranty. Our attorneys have litigated cases involving an extensive array of products, including pharmaceuticals and other health care products, food products, children's products, consumer electronics, vehicle components,

aircraft engines, power tools, manufacturing equipment, construction equipment and toxic substances.

Professional Liability

Our attorneys have represented law firms and attorneys throughout the country in legal malpractice suits and have represented individual accountants, "Big 4" accounting firms and regional firms in state and federal courts and before state licensing and accounting boards. Our professional liability experience also includes the defense of insurance agents and brokers against fraud and misrepresentation claims, and engineers and architects against professional negligence claims.

Toxic Tort

The trial attorneys at Williams Montgomery & John represent manufacturers, shippers, distributors, premises operators and owners, retailers, users and insurers in class actions, mass tort actions, property damage cases and individual catastrophic injury cases involving numerous products and substances. The firm has developed particular capabilities defending emergency situations involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment.

Transportation

The members of our transportation team have defended wrongful death, personal injury and property damage lawsuits brought against railroads, trucking and freight transport companies. We have extensive experience with product liability lawsuits alleging manufacturing and design defects involving tires, airbags, seatbelts and other automobile components. In the aviation area, our attorneys have litigated matters involving catastrophic commercial airline, general aviation and helicopter accidents involving allegations of engine and component part failures.