



David M. Bennett

SHAREHOLDER

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Dave Bennett has established a diverse practice representing and defending the amusement, sports and recreation industries; colleges and universities; religious organizations and general liability throughout Illinois.

Dave has extensive experience in the preparation and trial of personal injury cases and has successfully defended clients in numerous jury trials, bench trials and arbitration hearings throughout the Chicago area and surrounding counties. He is also an approved attorney who represents clients on behalf of many insurance companies.

One of Dave's main practice areas is the representation of clients involved in the amusement, sports, recreation and leisure industries. These clients include theme parks, water parks, sports teams and venues, health and fitness clubs, family fun centers, climbing facilities, trampoline parks, bowling centers, ice and roller skating facilities, concert venues, camps, carnivals, zoos, and festivals.

Dave is a member and past Board of Director of the International Amusement & Leisure Defense Association (IALDA), a national network of amusement defense attorneys and claims professionals who focus their practice on legal issues in the amusement industry. Through IALDA, Dave has been active in establishing risk management guidelines for the bowling and roller-skating industries.

He is an active speaker at industry events on risk management guidelines for best practices in preventing and defending accidents in the amusement industry. Dave is a member of the International Association of Amusement Parks & Attractions (IAAPA), where he is a frequent speaker at seminars nationwide, including the Amusement Industry Manufacturers and Suppliers International Safety Seminars (AIMS), IAAPA conventions, Bowling Proprietors Association of America (BPAA), Roller Skating Association International (RSA) and Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel (IADTC) sponsored Trial Defense Practices seminars.

Dave and his wife Diane live in a northwest suburb of Chicago where they are raising their three

children. Dave volunteers his time at his church's legal aid clinic at Willow Creek Community Church's Care Center.

Education

- Chicago-Kent College of Law, J.D. 1989
- Purdue University, B.S. 1986

Bar Admissions

- Illinois
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Professional Experience

Professional Affiliations

- Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel, Board of Directors (2001—2010)
- International Amusement & Leisure Defense Association, Board of Directors (2010—2017)
- International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions, member
- Appointed to the General Liability Council for an insurance risk retention group

Awards

- AV Preeminent Attorney Designation by Martindale-Hubbell
- Illinois Leading Lawyer 2019

Related News

- Bennett Hosts Interactive Webinar Regarding Tort Liability for Drowning
- Pretzel Attorneys and Staff Participate in Race Judicata
- Pretzel & Stouffer Attorneys Named as Leading Lawyers for 2019 by Leading Lawyers Advisory Board
- Pretzel & Stouffer Attorneys Recognized as Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell
- Pretzel & Stouffer Secures Victory for National Roller Skating Rink Operator in High-Stakes Case

Related Results

- Pretzel & Stouffer Attorneys Obtain Dismissal for Youth Baseball Team
- Pretzel & Stouffer Attorneys Obtain Summary Judgment for Insurer