



William J. Leedom
Shareholder
Phone: 206.622.5511
Email: wleedom@bbllaw.com

Bill is a distinguished trial lawyer. Over the past thirty-five years, he has represented clients in over 70 jury trials in the state and federal courts of Washington, California, Alaska and Idaho. Bill focuses on complex litigation involving health care institutions and providers, scientific research centers, and product manufacturers, including pharmaceutical products and medical devices. Bill has represented hundreds of physicians, hospitals and clinics in medical malpractice cases; represented insureds and insurance companies in bad faith, breach of contract, and Consumer Protection Act cases; and acted as regional and local counsel in mass tort cases. He was a member of the team that represented Washington State in the successful litigation against the tobacco industry. Bill has repeatedly been included on the *Super Lawyers* list by *Washington Law & Politics*, the Best Lawyers in America list, and the Seattle's Top Lawyers list by Seattle Magazine.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

- Represented Plaintiff, Maria Federici, in a products liability case against U-Haul in 2007. The jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$15,510,000.
- Represented Physicians Insurance in two bad faith cases in 2006 and 2007. Results confidential.
- Represented XL Environmental and Greenwich Insurance in a breach of contract/bad faith case which resulted in a \$4,700,000 settlement for BB&L's clients during trial in 2006.
- Represented XL Environmental and Greenwich Insurance in coverage/bad faith case which resulted in a \$12,950,000 settlement in favor of BB&L's clients in 2005.
- Represented Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center during ten-week research liability/informed consent trial in 2004 which resulted in defense verdicts in four of five cases.
- Represented a homeowner in a bad faith, breach of contract, and Consumer Protection Act case against Farmers Insurance and obtained Washington State's largest first party bad faith jury verdict of over \$1,900,000 in 1999.
- Represented State of Washington in *State of Washington v. American Tobacco Co, et al.*, a case which settled during trial in 1998.

- Represented the University of Washington Medical Center at trial in multiple high-profile medical negligence cases, including *Marchioro v. UWMC (1998)* and *Rufer v. Abbott Laboratories (2001)*.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Super Lawyers (1998-2009)
- Peer-selected for *Best Lawyers in America* – Health Care Law 2007-2009
- Martindale-Hubbell AV Rated (highest)

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Washington Defense Trial Lawyers:
President (1988-1989)
- Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel: Toxic Tort and Environmental Law Section, Chair (1997-1999); Intellectual Property Section, Chair (1999-2001);
- Medical Malpractice Section, Pharmaceutical Litigation Section, Chair (2002-2004)
- King County Bar Association
- American Bar Association

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

“Genetics and Legal Issues: Research Liability,” presented to 48th Washington Judicial Conference, Tacoma, Wash., 2005

“Defending Medical Claims and Allegations of Malpractice,” presented to Washington Defense Trial Lawyers, Seattle, Wash., 2005

“Genome Justice (Disparate Impacts of Genetic Testing on Women and Vulnerable Populations),” presented by The National Association of Women Judges, Seattle, Wash., 2004

“Consent and Liability Lessons for IRB Members,” presented at Seattle, Wash., 2003

“Masters In Trial-A Trial Demonstration,” presented through the Foundation of the American Board of Trial Advocates, Seattle, Wash., 2003

“Terrific Tools for the Technologically Challenged Trial Lawyer,” presented through the FDCC, Sun Valley, ID, 2002

“The Power of Videotape Depositions at Trial,” presented through the Washington State Bar Association, Seattle, Wash., 2002

“Technology and the Trial Lawyer: New Tools for More Impact,” presented through the FDCC, Boca Raton, Fla., 2002

“Nursing Home Litigation,” presented through the Defense Research Institute, San Francisco, Calif., 2001

“Trying Big Tort Cases,” presented through the University of Washington School of Law and Washington Law School Foundation, Seattle, Wash., 2000

“Tobacco Litigation Update—Lessons for the Future,” including a discussion of the crime-fraud exception to the attorney-client privilege, presented at the 1999 Mid-Winter meeting of the Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel in San Antonio, TX.

“The Tobacco Wars: a View from the Front,” invited lecture at Claremont-McKenna College, Claremont, Calif., 1999

“Sick Building Syndrome – The Clue Game,” presented at the 1998 Annual Meeting of the Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel at the Chateau Mont Tremblant, Quebec, 1998

“Risk Management in Cardiovascular Anesthesia,” presented at the 1998 annual meeting of the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle, Wash.

“Brain Damage Vignettes – 1997,” presented at the annual meeting of the Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs, Colo., 1997

“The Obvious and Serious Brain Damage Case: The Defense Lawyer’s Role,” presented at the Defense Research Institute Seminar, Westin Hotel, Seattle, Wash., 1997

“Mass Litigation: Lessons from the Past; Warnings for the Future,” focus on tobacco litigation, presented at the Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel Annual Meeting - London, 1996

“A UWMC Medical Team Goes to Court,” presented at the University of Washington, Department of Medicine, 1995-96 Medical Grand Rounds, 1996

“Norplant System Litigation -- The Physician's Role,” presented at the Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel Annual Meeting in Sun Valley, ID, 1995

“Washington State Physicians Insurance Exchange and Association v. Fisons Corporation, Lessons for Health Care Providers,” presented at the Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel Annual Meeting at the Chateau Whistler Resort, Whistler, British Columbia, 1994

“Washington State Physicians Insurance Exchange and Association v. Fisons Corporation, Wake-Up Call for the Pharmaceutical Industry,” presented at the Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel Mid-Winter Meeting at the Ritz Carlton, Kapalua, Maui, HI, 1994

“Trial Technique Vignettes for the Bad Baby Case,” The Defense Research Institute Medical Malpractice Seminar, San Diego, Calif., 1993

“Mock Trial: Breast Cancer Litigation,” sponsored by Physician's Insurance, Seattle, Wash., 1992

“Mock Trial: Medical Malpractice, Mason Clinic, Seattle, Washington, 1991 Anatomy of a Medical Professional Liability Lawsuit,” sponsored by Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound, Seattle, Wash., 1989, 1991, 1992

Lecturer, American College of Surgeons, Medical Malpractice, Seattle, Wash., 1990

“Jury Selection and Witness Preparation: Persuasive Strategies for Jury Trials,” sponsored by King County Bar Association, "Preparation of Witnesses," Seattle, Wash., 1987

“Torts in Transition: The Impact of the Legislature,” sponsored by Washington Association of Defense Counsel, "Impact on Medical Profession: Statute of Limitations, Accelerated Privilege," Seattle, Wash., 1986

Professional Liability Seminar, sponsored by Washington State Trial Lawyers Association, *“Medical Malpractice--Defendant's Viewpoint,”* Seattle, Wash., 1981

“Fundamental Trial Practice: Back to Basics,” sponsored by Washington State Bar Association, "Preparing a Witness to Testify for Deposition at Trial," Seattle, Wash., 1981

EDUCATION

University of Washington, J.D.
Executive Editor, Washington Law Review

University of Washington, B.A.

BAR AND COURT MEMBERSHIPS

Washington State Bar Association
United States District Court Western District Washington
United States District Court Eastern District Washington
Oregon State Bar Association