von Briesen
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Thomas J. Burns

Attorney

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Tom Burns is a Shareholder and accomplished litigator whose practice is focused on trying product liability, mass tort, environmental, and toxic tort cases. He has successfully tried cases to verdict on behalf of defendants involved in these types of cases in more than a dozen states.

An authority on tort law, environmental law, and lung disease, Tom has managed clients' litigation nationally and tried more than 100 mesothelioma cases to verdict since 2002. His trial experience includes successful verdicts in Cook County (IL), Madison County (IL), New Orleans, Florida, West Virginia, Oakland, Los Angeles, Seattle, Boston and St. Louis County (MO). His cases of note include first-chairing the *Meyer* and *Pride* cases at trial, on appeal, and at the retrial, and established the remittitur protocol for New York County asbestos litigation cases. In Virginia, Tom first-chaired the *Hardick* case at trial and on appeal and eliminated non-pecuniary damages for family members in Maritime Law cases in Virginia. In Maryland, he first-chaired the *Kaiser*, *Koepper*, and *Edwards* cases, which are three of only seven defense verdicts in that jurisdiction since 1998.

In addition to his trial practice, Tom represents clients in general business and commercial transactions. He also has product liability experience involving cannabis concentrates, chemical solvents, talc and bottles and complex multi-party litigation involving transportation, pollution, and grievous bodily injury cases.

Areas of Practice

- Litigation and Risk Management
- Product Liability
- Toxic Tort
- Environmental Law and Litigation
- Business and Corporate Law
- Hemp, CBD & Cannabis

Education

- Loyola University Chicago, J.D., 1996
- John Carroll University, B.A., 1993

Bar Admissions

- Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Northern and Southern Districts of Illinois

Professional and Civic Associations

- American Bar Association
- Illinois State Bar Association
- Defense Research Institute