

R E S U M E

Recommended By Peers For



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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Date of Birth: August 8, 1960
Place of Birth: Chicago, Illinois
Children: Elizabeth and John

EMPLOYMENT BACKGROUND:

ROMANUCCI AND BLANDIN, LLC

◆Principal and partner in law firm providing clients with experienced and technically advanced legal representation and trial preparation in catastrophic personal injury, wrongful death and workers compensation claims. Specific emphasis is placed on cases involving traumatic brain injury, burn and fire-related claims, aviation disaster, medical negligence, vehicular negligence, and product liability.

January 1998 to present

◆Responsible for litigating major personal injury and workers

compensation claims.

October 1990 to January 1998

◆General trial practice with particular concentration in workers' compensation, personal injury and criminal.

April 1987 to October 1990

◆Representation of indigent defendants. Experience consisted of jury trials, bench trials and preliminary hearings

May 1984 to April 1987

BAR ADMISSIONS:

Illinois, November 1985
Northern District of Illinois, December 1985
Pro Hac Vice, 2005, Southern District Florida
Pro Hac Vice, 2004, Orange County, California
Pro Hac Vice, 2007, Clark County, Nevada

**ACADEMIC
BACKGROUND:**

THE JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL

- ◆J.D. June 1985
- ◆President of Securities Exchange Law Association (SELA)
- ◆Justinian member, Law Student Chapter
- ◆Phi Alpha Delta member
- ◆Publisher of Securities Exchange Law Association newsletter
- ◆Fund-raising activities

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON

- ◆B.A., Psychology, May 1982
- ◆Dean's List third and fourth years
- ◆Four year volunteer with Dane County assisting transition of schizophrenic patients to residential settings from institutions
- ◆One year volunteer with Dane County Juvenile Detention Center
- ◆Senior year scientific research publication on the placebo effect of alcoholic beverages

FENWICK HIGH SCHOOL, OAK PARK, IL.

- ◆Graduated 1978

LEGAL ACTIVITIES:

- ◆Mandatory Arbitration Judge, Cook County, Illinois
- ◆Co - Chairperson of WCLA Medical Seminar, 1994
- ◆Chairperson and Moderator of WCLA Medical Seminar, 1995
- ◆Arrangement Committee, Justinian Society, 1994 - 1996
- ◆Scholarship Committee, Justinian Society, 1994 - 1997
- ◆Executive Committee, Justinian Society, 1996 - 2006
- ◆Lawyer's for Workers' Rights Organization, 1995
- ◆Delegate to Board of Directors National Italian-American Bar Assoc., 1996 - 1997
- ◆Treasurer, National Italian-American Bar Assoc., 2001 - 2005
- ◆President, Justinian Society of Lawyers, 2002 - 2003
- ◆ISBA appointment to the Task Force on Certification, 1997 - 1999
- ◆ISBA Assembly May 1998 - 2004

- ◆ISBA Agenda and Programs Committee on Hearings, June 1999
- ◆Accipiter Award Committee, Fenwick Bar Association, 2000-2003
- ◆ATLA National Host Student Trial Advocacy Competition, 2001, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2007
- ◆ITLA Board of Managers, 2003 - _____
- ◆WCLA Board of Directors, 2005 - 2008
- ◆ISBA Torts Section Council Member, 2005 - _____
- ◆AAJ PAC Committee Member, 2005 - _____
- ◆Law School Facilitator as appointed by the Professionalism Commission of the Illinois Supreme Court, 2004 - _____
- ◆Suburban Bar Coalition Judicial Screener November 2006
- ◆ISBA Standing Committee Law Related Education for the Public
- ◆Illinois Bar Foundation Raffle Chair, 2005 - _____
- ◆Illinois Bar Foundation Chicago Fellows Committee, 2007 - _____
- ◆AAJ journal Peer Reviewer for *TRIAL*
- ◆Public Justice Board of Directors, 2008 - _____

CIVIC ACTIVITIES:

- ◆Constitutional Rights Foundation, seventh and eighth grade student instructor, 1988 - 1994
- ◆Wisconsin Alumni Association Career Connections counselor
- ◆Make - A - Wish Foundation Volunteer, 1994 - _____
- ◆The Greater Barrington Area Lawyer's Guild, founder and President, 1996 - 1998
- ◆Vice - President, RiverPark Athletic and Dining Club, 1998 - 1999
- ◆President, Knapp Burn Foundation, 2000 - 2002
- ◆President, Midwest Brain Injury Clubhouse, 2001 - 2006
- ◆Board of Directors, Barrington Area Arts Council, 2000 - 2003
- ◆Invited Delegate by the Chinese Ministry of Health, People to People Ambassador
- ◆Board of Directors, Illinois Fatherhood Initiative, 2002 - 2006
- ◆President and Founder, Justinian Society's Children Endowment Fund, 2002 - _____
- ◆Board of Directors, Giant Steps, Inc., 2003 – 2005
- ◆ Finance Co-Chair, Robert Fioretti, 2nd Ward Aldermanic Candidate
- ◆Board of Directors, Italian American Chamber of Commerce, 2007 –
- ◆First Vice-President President, Joint Civic Committee
- ◆Chairman, Cardinal Bernardin Humanitarian Awards Dinner 2008
- ◆Honorary Board Member, Giant Steps, 2005 - _____

AWARDS AND: HONORS

- ◆1998 David Award
- ◆1995 Certificate of Merit for outstanding service in the program of Continuing Legal Education - WCLA Annual Medical Seminar

- ◆1989 Constitutional Rights Foundation Lawyer of the Year
- ◆1986 City of Chicago Citizen's Bravery Award
- ◆Life Member of the National Registry of Who's Who
- ◆2003 John Marshall Law School Distinguished Service Award
- ◆2003 - 2008 Illinois Leading Lawyer's Network Top Lawyer
- ◆2005, 2006, 2008 Named Top 100 Super Lawyer in Illinois
- ◆AV Rated Attorney by Martindale Hubble
- ◆Top 8 Aviation Lawyer in State of Illinois
- ◆2007 Certificate of Appreciation for Civic Contributions from the
The City of Chicago

**PROFESSIONAL
ORGANIZATION
PARTICIPATION:**

- ◆American Association for Justice (AAJ)
- ◆Workers' Compensation Lawyer's Association (WCLA)
- ◆Illinois Trial Lawyer' Association (ITLA)
- ◆Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA)
- ◆Chicago Bar Association (CBA)
- ◆Justinian Society of Lawyers
- ◆National Italian-American Foundation (NIAF)
- ◆Fenwick Bar Association
- ◆American Bar Association (ABA)
- ◆Northwest Suburban Bar Association (NWSBA)
- ◆Women's Bar Association of Illinois (WBAI)
- ◆Melvin M. Belli Society

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:

- ◆Union Local #134 IBEW, Workers' Comp overview
- ◆Union Local #134 IBEW, Structural Work Act Overview
- ◆Union Local #134 IBEW, Workers' Compensation Remedies
- ◆The John Marshall Law School, March 1996, Obtaining
Successful Employment and Maintaining Success in Practice
- ◆Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Oak Brook, Il., November 9,
1996, Notice and Statute of Limitations
- ◆Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, Il., April 1997, New Cases
and Recent Developments
- ◆National Business Institute, Willowbrook, Il., September 1997,
Advanced Workers' Compensation In Illinois
- ◆National Business Institute, Willowbrook, Il., May 1999,
Workers' Compensation In Illinois
- ◆Knapp Burn Foundation Survivor Wellness Forum, Oak Brook, Il.
May 1999, Issues Relating to Burn Survivors and Victims
- ◆Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Oak Brook, Il., November 6,
1999, Notice and Statute of Limitations

- ◆Knapp Burn Foundation Survivor Wellness Forum, Willowbrook, IL May 2000, Maximizing Damages at Trial
- ◆Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Chicago, IL., September 15, 2001, Premises Liability
- ◆Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL., September 2001 and November 2003, Anticipating Objections During Discovery and Motions in Limine
- ◆Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Chicago, IL., October 14, 2002, Litigating the Complex Case; Section 41 Claims Against the Chicago Transit Authority
- ◆Illinois State Bar Association, Chicago, IL., February 2004, Training for Lawyers Participating in Mediation of Major Cases
- ◆Association of Trial of America, Boston, MA, July 2004, Using Reconstruction Animations in Complex Transportation Litigation
- ◆Illinois Trial Lawyer's Association, Chicago, IL., October 2005, Governmental Tort Immunity
- ◆Illinois State Bar Association, Collinsville and Lombard, IL., Moderator for 2 day MCLE Seminar, November 2006, Governmental Tort Immunity
- ◆Litigation Skills Conference, Panelist, Chicago, IL., September 2007
- ◆ Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL., October 2007 Anticipating Objections During Discovery and Motions in Limine
- ◆Litigation Skills Conference, Panelist, Chicago, IL., October 2007
- ◆Illinois State Bar Association, Depositions Skill Seminar, December 2007
- ◆Litigation Skills Conference, Moderator, Chicago, IL., March 2008
- ◆Illinois Trial Lawyer's Association, Chicago, IL., April 2008, Confidential Settlements
- ◆Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL., May 2008, Using Exhibits at Trial
- ◆North American Brain Injury Society, New Orleans, La., October 2008, Voir Dire
- ◆ Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL., October 2008 Anticipating Objections During Discovery and Motions in Limine

PUBLICATIONS:

- ◆*Statute of Limitations*, 1996 - 2007, ITLA Worker's Compensation Lawyer's Notebook
- ◆*New Cases and Recent Developments*, 1997 CBA Worker's Compensation Handbook
- ◆*Injudicious*, May 2, 1997, Chicago Tribune, Voice Of The People
- ◆*Medical Issues In The Complex Workers' Compensation Claim*

- 1997 NBI Advanced Workers' Compensation In Illinois
- ◆ *Litigation Techniques For The Difficult Injured Employee's Case*, 1997 NBI Advanced Workers' Compensation In Illinois
- ◆ *Sound the Alarm*, March 5, 1998, Chicago Tribune, Voice of the People
- ◆ *And Now, a Good Word About Lawyers*, December 29, 1998, Chicago Tribune, Voice of the People
- ◆ *The Pegram Decision*, June 23, 2000, The Chicago Sun-Times
- ◆ *Ignoring the Injured*, March 19, 2001, The Chicago Tribune
- ◆ *Premises Liability*, 2001, ITLA Lawyer's Notebook
- ◆ *Litigating the Complex Case Section 41 claims Against the Chicago Transit Authority*, October 2002, ITLA Lawyer's Notebook
- ◆ *Born To Lead*, July 2003, Fra Noi
- ◆ *Using Reconstruction Animations in Complex Transportation Litigation*, December 2003, ATLA's Motor Vehicle and Premises Litigation Section Newsletter
- ◆ *Employees Should Know Workers Compensation Rights*, Star Newspapers Business Section, March 2007
- ◆ *Head Trauma Requires More*, Crain's Chicago Business, June 2007

SIGNIFICANT

LITIGATION INVOLVEMENT:

- ◆ *Severin v. American Airlines* 4184
- ◆ *TWA Flight 800*
- ◆ *Poull v. Courtney* (Cicero fire tragedy -- Six wrongful deaths)
- ◆ *Domenick v. Dominick's* (Roof collapse; \$4 million(+) settlement sets record in Illinois for octogenarian)
- ◆ *Talley v. Barrington School District 220*, \$1.5(+) million settlement
- ◆ *Chmielewski v. CTA*, March 1999, \$5.33 million verdict
- ◆ *Tews v. Stoxen Chiropractic*, \$3.71 million verdict
- ◆ *Pietras v. Biddle Corporation*, \$3.6 million verdict
- ◆ *Kuprianczyk v. CTA*, January 2002, \$3.6 million verdict
- ◆ *Alaska Airlines Flight 261*, \$6.5 million settlement
- ◆ *American Airlines Flight 587*
- ◆ *Doe v. Doe*, June 2002, \$1.125 million settlement
- ◆ *Buhle v. Associated British Foods*, \$2.25 million settlement
- ◆ *Hudson v. City of Chicago*, \$17.6 million verdict
- ◆ *Wszolek v. Chicago Bus Co.*, \$1.75 million settlement
- ◆ *Deig v. Polaris*, Confidential Settlement
- ◆ *Dell'Oglio v. Concord Homes*, \$1.45 million settlement
- ◆ *Golien v. Carnival Cruise Lines*, Confidential settlement
- ◆ *Briefman v. City of Chicago*, Multi Million Dollar settlement
- ◆ *Bonnie Bobo v. Chicago Housing Authority*, \$3.65 million settlement

- ◆Milnamow v. Shedd Aquarium, Multi Million Dollar settlement
- ◆Southwest Airlines Flight 1248
- ◆Cabay v. Loyola University, Multi Million Dollar settlement
- ◆Balzano v. Takaghi, \$1.45 Million Dollar settlement

INTERESTS:

- ◆Racquetball, Reading, Computers, Fluent Italian, Travel, Philanthropy, Political Fundraising, Chicago Marathoner