



MATTHEW J. THOMAS
Curriculum Vitae

EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY

Matthew J. Thomas is a partner, shareholder and sits on the Board of Directors of the law firm of Rutledge, Manion, Rabaut, Terry & Thomas, P.C., located in Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Thomas specializes in the representation of defendants in professional and general liability actions, with a focus on the representation of healthcare providers, attorneys, insurance companies and business entities. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Thomas was a senior associate at a large Detroit law firm, where he specialized in the defense of hospitals, physicians and other healthcare providers in medical malpractice actions.

EDUCATION

- Wayne State University Law School
Juris Doctor
May 1999
- University of Detroit Mercy
Bachelor of Arts, *Magna Cum Laude*
May 1996
- Detroit Catholic Central High School
May 1992

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Throughout his career, Mr. Thomas has had the privilege to successfully represent numerous individuals and entities in various civil litigation matters, including medical, legal and other professional malpractice; premises liability litigation; first and third-party auto and trucking actions; construction and other complex litigation; products liability; insurance coverage disputes; employment matters; civil rights violations; and various contractual and corporate matters.

As a litigator, Mr. Thomas handles all phases of litigation from pre-suit through trial. He has achieved favorable results via motion and trial practice, to include many no cause defense verdicts. In addition to his litigation practice, Mr. Thomas also has an active appellate practice, having received numerous favorable decisions (published and unpublished) at both the state and federal appellate levels.

LICENSURE AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Mr. Thomas is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, licensed to practice in all courts in the State of Michigan, and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan; the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan; and the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Mr. Thomas is also a member of the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel; Association of Defense Trial Counsel; and the Negligence Section of the State Bar. Mr. Thomas sits as a Committee Member for the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrock Bar Association.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

- AV Preeminent[®] (highest) Peer Review Rating by Martindale-Hubbell
- 2020 “Top Lawyer” by DBusiness Magazine
- 2018 - 2019 recognized as a “Super Lawyer” by *Michigan Super Lawyers*
- 2009 – 2014 recognized as a “Rising Star” by *Michigan Super Lawyers*

NOTABLE APPELLATE DECISIONS

- *Iroquois on the Beach, Inc. v General Star Indemnity Co.*,
550 F3d 585 (6th Cir.2008)
- *Peterson v Fertel*,
283 Mich App 232, 235; 770 NW2d 47 (2009)
- *Lockwood v Mobile Medical Response, Inc.*,
293 Mich App 17; 809 NW2d 403 (2011)
- *Gumina v 90, LLC*.
Docket No. 312841, 2014 WL 265534, (Mich. COA. June 23, 2014)
- *Burton v Macha, et al.*
303 Mich App 750; 846 NW2d 419 (2014)
- *Diaz v Longcore, et al.*
No. 17-2502, 2018 WL 5096380 (6th Cir. Oct. 18, 2018)

- *Kendrick v Professional Property Management*
Docket No. 341610, 2019 WL 1645240 (Mich. COA April 16, 2019)
- *Goff v Niver, et al.*
Docket No. 343315, 2019 WL 2517861 (Mich. COA June 18, 2019)

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

- Author of *Ex Parte Communication in a Post-HIPAA World*.
Michigan Defense Quarterly, Volume 32, No. 4 - 2016.
- Author of *Ex Parte Communication in a Post-HIPAA World*.
Presented at the Fall 2011 Eagle International Associates, Inc. Conference held in New York, New York.
- Co-author of *Voir Dire: Permit us to do the job our clients expect*.
Featured in Michigan Lawyers Weekly, November 29, 2010.
- Co-author of *Joint & Several Liability - - A Varied Landscape For The Sharing And Passing Of Liability*.
Presented at the Fall 2010 Eagle International Associates, Inc. Conference held in Chicago, Illinois.

PRESENTATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Frequent lecturer regarding professional/general liability and risk avoidance to local and national insurance companies, healthcare providers and businesses.
- Presenter of *General and Professional Liability in Michigan. A claim professional's guide to general and professional liability law in the State of Michigan*.
2013 Global Indemnity Insurance Company Claims Seminar
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania
- Co-Presenter of *Social Media...The Good, The Bad & The Funny! A defense attorney's guide to social media*.
July 2018 OMSNIC/Fortress Insurance Defense Counsel Seminar
Chicago, Illinois.

=====

VOLUNTEER/CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- 2011 - 2019 Youth Football Coach/Football Director/Unit Director
Livonia Blue Jays Football & Cheer
- 2012 - 2019 Board of Directors/Executive Board Member
Livonia Junior Athletic League
- 2012 - 2019 Board of Directors/Officer - Secretary
Western Lakes Junior Football League &
Southeastern Michigan Youth Football Association
- 2013 - 2019 Varsity Lacrosse Coach
Livonia St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School