



Linda J. Hay has an unwavering commitment to the defense of professionals from claims of malpractice. Her experience and success defending clients in healthcare, dental, and legal malpractice cases provide an exceptional advantage at every turn.

Ms. Hay's passion for her work is built on a combination of skill, experience, client support, responsiveness, and a penchant for detailed preparation—always. Clients rely on her straightforward approach and calm demeanor in the face of the adversity of litigation. As a trial lawyer, she brings the diligence of an exceptional work ethic to all manner of her clients' cases. Her clients know that whatever the path chosen for an individual case, she'll be there with them to carry it through to a successful result.

Clients appreciate the value Ms. Hay's education and past work experience brings to the defense team. She has spent the entirety of her personal life, as well as her professional life, in Chicago and Cook County.

Ms. Hay's dedication and commitment to her clients and her profession have driven her winning results at every level, through every step of her career.

Career Background

Following law school, she took on a clerkship with the Hon. Thomas E. Hoffman in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Law Division, Motion Call. As law clerk, she ran a busy motion courtroom. Under Judge Hoffman's mentorship, she learned the nuts and bolts of how the Daley Center operated, how advocates fought for their clients, and how, substantively and procedurally, a case advanced through the state court system. From that position, she moved up to the First District Appellate Court, to an appellate clerkship with Hon. William R. Quinlan. Vastly different from her circuit court clerkship, this role honed her research and writing skills, her attention to detail, her respect for the court record, and the nuance of winning written and oral persuasion. From there, Ms. Hay went on to practice as an appellate advocate in her position as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Illinois.

With that foundation, in January of 1990, she joined a professional liability defense firm in Chicago: Hay & Oldenburg LLC (formerly known as Alholm and Monahan). Ms. Hay went on to become a partner-owner of that certified woman-owned law firm. In October 2016, Hay & Oldenburg joined the Chicago office of HeplerBroom.

Practices:

- Dental Malpractice
- Legal Malpractice
- Long-Term Care Malpractice
- Medical & Healthcare Malpractice

Education:

- University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, J.D., 1986
- University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign, B.A. in Economics, 1982

Bar Admissions:

- Illinois
- Illinois Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit
- U.S. District Courts for the Federal Trial Bar for the
 - Northern District of Illinois
 - Central District of Illinois

Results

- U.S. D.C., N. D. Ill., April 2022. Negligence/Personal Injury. Plaintiff claimed negligence against Defendant's retail business when he sustained a soft tissue injury to his foot. Plaintiff alleged injury was caused by Complex Regional Pain Syndrome. Prior to expert disclosure (at a predecessor law firm), Plaintiff made a settlement demand of \$10 Million. Case was transferred to HeplerBroom to try. Just prior to trial, Defendant offered \$300,000 to settle (rejected). At trial, Plaintiff asked jury to award just under \$8 Million. Jury verdict returned for Plaintiff for \$490,000.
- DuPage County, February 2018. Secured complete defense verdict for client, a general dentist. A 19-year-old plaintiff sustained permanent bilateral lingual nerve injury after extraction of wisdom teeth. Asked for \$900,000 at close of jury trial. Verdict for defendant.
- Cook County, January 2018. Secured complete defense victory for client, a periodontist. Plaintiff alleged dental implant was placed too close to inferior alveolar nerve in lower right jaw and caused permanent pain and numbness to lip and chin. Plaintiff asked for \$2.3 million in damages. Verdict for Defendant.
- Cook County, June 2017. Dental malpractice case alleging failure to properly prepare cosmetic restorations. (Concomitant collection action by dentist against patient for unpaid fees.) Plaintiff asked jury for \$130,000. Verdict for Plaintiff \$9,725 on malpractice action. Verdict in favor of patient on collection action.
- Cook County, May-June 2017. Medical malpractice case alleging failure to diagnose and refer resulting in death from pulmonary embolism of a 54-year-old man. Plaintiff asked jury for \$17 million. Verdict for Defendants.

Honors & Awards

- AV Preeminent[®] Attorney by Martindale-Hubbell
- Illinois Leading Lawyers (2013-2025)
- Illinois Super Lawyers (2005-2014, 2016-2025)
 - Top 50 Female Lawyers in Illinois (2005-2009)

- Distinguished Member Award, Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel (2016)
- President's Commendation, Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel (2009)
- Chicago Women in Law, *Chicago Lawyer* (2002)
- Defense Star Award, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons National Insurance Company, (2002)
- Golden Gavel Designee, National Association of Insurance Women (2002)
- Maggie O'Toole Mentors and Protégées Award, National Association of Insurance Women (1999)

Professional Associations

- Association of Defense Trial Attorneys
 - Chair, Webinar Committee (2019-2020)
 - Editor, *The Association Press* (2010-2015)
- Chicagoland Healthcare Risk Management Society
- Defense Research Institute
- Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel
 - Editor, *IDC 2017 Survey of Law* (2018)
 - Board of Directors (2005-2009)
 - Co-Chair, Diversity Committee (2007-2009)
 - Editor-in-Chief, *IDC Quarterly* (2005-2006)
 - Chair, Medical Liability Committee (2000-2002)
 - Editorial Staff, *IDC Quarterly* (2002-2005)
- Illinois Association of Healthcare Attorneys
- Medical Professional Liability Association