



TAMMERA E. BANASEK

Partner | Chicago, IL

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Tammy Banasek is a dedicated litigator who has developed a special focus in defending medical and dental professionals, hospitals, and skilled nursing facilities. She also counsels physicians and dentists in professional licensing matters.

Ms. Banasek welcomes the challenge of extensive research and investigation, learning the details of medicine and dentistry to develop effective defenses and provide positive case results. Her clients appreciate her calmness and professionalism in steering them through the stressful litigation process. She also excels at remaining accessible and responsive to her clients' needs.

Ms. Banasek is detailed and deadline driven. She understands that early workup of a case's facts and defenses provides the most favorable and efficient results. She is also committed to providing a collaborative and cohesive defense. That focus has enabled her to achieve favorable resolution with motion practice and mediation and through numerous trials. Her prior years as a plaintiff litigation paralegal shaped her unique perspective and ability to anticipate plaintiff's offense. Further, her personal journey caring for her elderly aunt has made her a passionate advocate for heroic professionals working in long-term care areas.

As a leader in her field, she is frequently asked to speak and write on topics related to healthcare litigation and risk management.

Practices:

- Dental Malpractice
- Long-Term Care Malpractice
- Medical & Healthcare Malpractice
- Professional Liability

Education:

- University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, J.D., cum laude, 1993
- Roosevelt University Certificate in Paralegal Studies, 1985
- Northern Illinois University, B.A. in Communication Studies, 1985

Bar Admissions:

- Illinois
- Illinois Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Results

- Dental malpractice trial alleging facial injury of 10 year old from dental materials used during a root canal procedure. Defendant denied use of any caustic materials and defense argued no permanent facial injury present 10 years later when case went to trial. Plaintiff dismissed case just before jury selection. (Cook County, 2024).
- Medical malpractice trial against surgicenter and anesthesiologist for injury to Plaintiff's shoulder on transport to PACU. The court ruled on a series of strategically filed Motions in Limine challenging the admissibility of Plaintiff's economic damages. Plaintiff's economist sought to present nearly \$3 million in claimed damages at trial based on speculative future medical and vocational losses. The motions successfully barred the entirety of Plaintiff's economic damages, eliminating her ability to present any evidence of future financial loss. Case settled after voir dire for nominal medical specials. (DuPage County, 2024).
- Secured first partial summary judgment for a hospital in Cook County in a case alleging wounds caused by COVID. Summary judgment based on evidence that the hospital was rendering assistance to the State pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 2020-19 and the Illinois Management Agency Act in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Obtained defense verdict in a two-week Cook County medical malpractice trial where plaintiff alleged co-defendants (a hospital and a cardiothoracic surgeon) were responsible for negligently placing a chest tube during heart surgery, resulting in a colon perforation. The 80-year-old patient died months later from a pre-existing abdominal aortic aneurysm. Defense contended the colon injury was a known surgical complication and that the surgeon was not responsible for the patient's failure to timely repair his AAA before its rupture. Plaintiff had asked for \$9.8 million. (April 2019)
- Medical malpractice trial against hospital emergency department physician and internist for death of 75-year-old male from pulmonary embolism. Case settled after two days of trial. (2018)
- Dental malpractice case involving full mouth reconstruction with implants. Verdict in favor of Plaintiff, but only awarded her dental expenses and found her 50% contributorily negligent. Total verdict was \$35,436.20. (Cook County IL, August 2015)
- Dental malpractice case involving dental implants for maxillary reconstruction. Verdict for Defendant. (Cook County IL, June 2015)
- Medical malpractice case against clinic for family practice physician's alleged failure to diagnose ear infection resulting in hearing loss. Verdict for Defendant. (Cook County IL, June 2014)
- Dental malpractice case claiming negligent tooth extraction resulting in jaw fracture and sinus perforation. Verdict in favor of Plaintiff in the amount of \$95,160.75. (Cook County IL, May 2013)
- Dental malpractice case against oral and maxillofacial surgeon for failure to diagnose tongue cancer; alleged failure to diagnosis oral cancer. Verdict for Defendant. (Cook County IL, April 24-May 9, 2012)
- Dental malpractice case involving complications from endodontic treatment. Verdict for Defendant. (Cook County IL, September 21-24, 2009)

Honors & Awards

- AV Preeminent® Rated Attorney by Martindale-Hubbell
- Illinois Super Lawyer (2025)
- Trial Lawyer Excellence 2012 Award, Jury Verdict Reporter
 - Outstanding Defense Verdict – Dental Malpractice (2012)

Professional Associations

- Chicagoland Healthcare Risk Management Society
 - Peggy Cwik Lifetime Achievement Award (2025)
 - Board of Directors (2022-present)
- Defense Research Institute
 - Senior Living and Long-Term Care Planning Committee (2019-present)
- Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel
- Illinois Association of Healthcare Attorneys
- Illinois Healthcare Risk Management Society