

John R. (Jack) Trigg

Counsel Emeritus

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Jack Trigg is known for a long career of high-stakes product liability defense nationwide. Throughout his career, he has served as trial counsel to companies including Ford, Motor Coach Industries, and Volvo. Jack has represented Ford in two certified class action jury trials in California, one lasting four months and the other spanning 10 months.

Jack's national litigation practice focuses on complex business litigation, product liability, and class actions. He represents major corporate defendants as national trial counsel and has tried cases to juries in many state and federal courts during his career. He also focuses on risk-management and design and analysis of document retention and control programs. Additionally, Jack handles large and frequent claims arising out of alleged recurrent design, manufacturing defects, or recall problems.

Active in numerous bar organizations, Jack is past president of Lawyers for Civil Justice and past president and chairman of the board of the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel. He is

a former member of the board of directors of the Defense Research Institute. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. In 2001 he was awarded the Outstanding Alumnus Award by the University of Denver College of Law. In 2003, he received the first Lifetime Achievement award from the *Denver Business Journal's* Best of the Bar. Jack is consistently included in lawyer ranking directories such as *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, and *Colorado Super Lawyers*.

“Impressive expertise in the defense of large-scale product liability cases.”

– Client comment to Chambers USA

Credentials

Education

University of Denver Sturm College of Law, J.D., 1963

University of Colorado, B.S., 1961, Finance

LEGAL MEMBERSHIPS

American College of Trial Lawyers

Fellow

Association of Defense Trial Attorneys

Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel

Past President and Chairman of the Board

Trial Attorneys of America

Colorado Bar Association

Colorado Defense Lawyers Association

Secretary

University of Denver

Strategic Issues Panel on Legislative Accountability, 2015

Denver Bar Association

Defense Research Institute
Former Member, Board of Directors
Joint Project on Professionalism of the DRI/IADC/ADTA/FDCC

Lawyers for Civil Justice
Past President
Former Member, Board of Directors

United States District Court for the District of Colorado
Committee on Conduct

Product Liability Advisory Council

RECOGNITION

Chambers USA

Product Liability - National, 2005-2020

The Legal 500 United States

Litigation: Product Liability and Mass Tort Defense, 2007-2013, 2015

The Best Lawyers in America

Commercial Litigation, 2008-2027

Product Liability Litigation, 2008-2027

Colorado Super Lawyers

Class Action/Mass Torts, 2006-2024

Top 100, 2012-2014, 2016-2017

Top 50, 2010-2011

Law Week Colorado

"People's Choice" Best Overall Litigator, 2010

Denver Business Journal

Lifetime Achievement Award

Who's Who in Law

University of Denver Sturm College of Law

Outstanding Alumni Award, 2001

Martindale-Hubbell AV® Peer Review Rated

Euromoney's Expert Guides

Litigation and Product Liability

The International Who's Who/Lexology Index of Product Liability Defense Lawyers

1997-2011, 2014, 2016-2017, 2019, 2024

The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers

Commercial Litigation, 2013-2014, 2016

The International Who's Who/Lexology Index of Life Sciences Lawyers

2011-2014, 2016-2017, 2024

MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

Colorado Prevention Center

Chairman of the Board

Cherry Hills Country Club

President

BAR AND ADMISSIONS

Colorado

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals, 8th Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, 10th Circuit

U.S. District Court, D. Colorado

U.S. District Court, N.D. California

ARTICLES AND PRESENTATIONS

"A Sensitive Accusation: Malingering in brain injury cases easy to claim, difficult to prove," Law Week Colorado.

Presenter, "Protecting Your Company in Global Product Litigation Concerning Foreign Imports: What Happens When the Attorney General Gets Involved?," Product Liability Advisory Council Spring Conference.

Presenter, "Overview and Psychology of a Personal Injury Damage Case," Trial Masters Program at Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel Winter meeting.

Presenter, "Unfair Competition Laws and Attorney General Investigations," Product Liability Advisory Council.

Presenter, "Privileges and Protections Under Assault," Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel's Corporate Counsel Symposium.

Presenter, "Truth v. Perception - Personal Litigation Experience: Media Influence on Litigation," Trial Attorneys of America.

Presenter, "Product and Drug Liability in the European Economic Community," Joint International Conference, Barcelona, Spain, FDCC/IADC/DRI.

Presenter, "Litigation Theories of the Future," Defense Research Institute.

Presenter, "Powerpoint in the Courtroom," Faculty of Federal Advocates.

Presenter, "Locating the Line Between Police Power and Regulatory Power: Judicial Authority to Issue Mandatory Recall Injunctions," Emerging Issues in Motor Vehicle Product Liability Litigation Conference.

Presenter, "Erosion of Confidentiality Protective Orders and Its Impact on Corporations and Litigation," Joint presentation by the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel and the Lawyers for Civil Justice at the FDCC.

Presenter, "Perils and Pitfalls of California's Unfair Competition Law Bus. and Prof. Code § 17200," International Association of Defense Counsel midyear meeting.

Presenter, "Chairman; Opening Remarks," Lawyers for Civil Justice 2000 New York Conference and Meeting.

Presenter, "Ethics and Risks in Litigation," The Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel Conference.

Presenter, "Common Discovery Tactics Used by Plaintiff's Attorneys and Methods to Combat Them," The Defense Research Institute Conference.

Presenter, "Crime Fraud," Defense Research Institute.

Presenter, "Litigation Management: Whose Responsibility?," Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel Litigation Management College.

Presenter, "The Lawyer's Role is to Produce a Winner," American Bar Association Conference.

Presenter, "Handling Comparative Fault in Enhanced Injury Cases," National Conference on Products Liability Law.

Presenter, "Ethical Considerations in Defending International Clients," Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel.

Presenter, "Product Liability in Colorado in 1988: A Look at the Statutes and Case Law," Hall & Evans Litigation Seminar.

TEACHING POSITIONS

Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel
Litigation Management College

Practices

Catastrophic Injury

Class Actions

Commercial Litigation

Mass Torts

Product Liability

Cases

Successfully appealed to the Colorado Supreme Court a case WTO won at the trial court level, but which was reversed by the Colorado Court of Appeals. Following arguments, the Colorado Supreme Court's published opinion restored the complete victory for the insurer in this precedent-setting case of first impression and made it easier for commercial property insurers to understand and follow Colorado's statutory notice requirements.

Represented a major commercial insurer in nationwide concussion and traumatic brain injury class action litigation involving the National Collegiate Athletic Association, National Hockey League, and U.S. Soccer Federation.

Defended Ford Motor Co. in a four-month certified class action trial involving \$2 billion in consumer fraud claims. On the day set for closing arguments, the plaintiffs agreed to a no-cash, coupon-based settlement for the California class and classes in three other states with pending parallel actions.

Defended a major motorcoach manufacturer in a multiple-fatality rollover crash litigation involving extensive document production.

Won an "extraordinary remedy" from the Colorado Supreme Court for an insurance company to reverse a trial-court order implying a waiver of the attorney-client privilege. The unanimous opinion establishes that the mere "fact that privileged information might become relevant in a given lawsuit could not alone be enough to establish an implied waiver."

Won a jury defense verdict in U.S.D.C. for the District of Colorado for an automobile manufacturer in a wrongful death crashworthiness case.

Represented footwear manufacturer Crocs in nationwide litigation involving allegations of defectively designed footwear and failure to warn with respect to alleged risks associated with wearing the shoes on escalators.

Defended Mobay Chemical Company (then a subsidiary of Bayer) against claims arising from the Sunshine Mine disaster. The catastrophic fire in the Idaho silver mine killed more than 90 miners. After a four-month trial, all claims against Mobay were dismissed.

Represented defendants in the Dupont Plaza Hotel fire that killed 97 people in Puerto Rico.

Represented defendants in claims relating to the Beverly Hills Supper Club fire, which killed 168 people in Southgate, Kentucky.

Represented Ford Motor Co. in a 10-month, nationwide class action jury trial in California involving thick film ignition modules in 12 million vehicles. The trial ended in a hung jury.

Defended Ford Motor Co. in a Missouri class action involving automobile transmissions.

Won dismissal for Ford Motor Co. in an Alabama class action involving the Bronco II.
