

Thomas M. Crisham

SHAREHOLDER

Few trial lawyers in the U.S. over the last several decades can approach the credentials and peer respect of Tom Crisham. A recipient of the Medal of Excellence from Loyola Alumni Association, named a Top 20 Defense Lawyer by Chicago Lawyer Magazine, and routinely named a Leading Lawyer of Illinois by Leading Lawyers Network, a Top 100 Super Lawyer in Illinois, and a Best Lawyer in America in Personal Injury Litigation and Product Liability Litigation only touches the tip of the iceberg. Yet, while the awards and accolades are a well-deserved acknowledgment of a tremendous legal career to date, it is the art and science of the practice of law that continues to fuel his passion—as advocate, counselor, litigator and teacher.

A Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the International Society of Barristers, two of the industry's most esteemed professional bodies, Tom's practice focuses on complex commercial litigation, including professional liability, insurance coverage, product liability, and toxic torts. He is an Advocate of the American Board of Trial Advocates and has served as President and Chairman of the Board of the Defense Research and Trial Lawyers Institute (DRI), a national association for civil trial lawyers.



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PRACTICE AREAS

Professional Liability
Commercial and Employment
Insurance/Reinsurance Coverage

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

Toxic Torts
Transportation
Personal Injury Defense
ERISA
Environmental
Product Liability
Appellate Practice

Tom is also a prolific author and lecturer, with numerous textbooks, seminars and published papers (more than 75) to his credit on a wide range of legal topics, including litigation tactics, product liability, insurance coverage and professional liability issues. Among his noted works: *Your Witness - Lessons on Cross-Examination and Life from Great Chicago Trial Lawyers* (contributing author); *Pleadings, Motions and Third-Party Practice in Products Liability Cases* (co-author); *Construction Defects Claims* (paper and lecture, Property Loss Research Bureau); *Protecting Against Liability* (lecture, Illinois CPA Society); *Defending Claims Against Accountants* (lecture and paper, DRI Symposium on Litigation); *The Relationship Between Insurance Companies and Their Appointed Counsel* (lecture, Annual Meeting of Loss Executives Association); *Case Law Governing Final Arguments* (lecture and paper, Section on Civil Practice & Procedure, ISBA Annual Meeting); and *Tort Reform: Miracle Cure or Poison Pill?* (lecture, The Conference of Casualty Insurance Companies).

George Bernard Shaw once said, "He who can, does. He who cannot, teaches." Shaw clearly never met Tom Crisham. In addition to the practice of law, Tom is also a popular and highly sought-after professor and lecturer in academic circles, having served on adjunct faculties of Northwestern University School of Law, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, and The John Marshall Law School.

Throughout his accomplished legal career, Tom has never lost touch with his roots. Having grown up on the south side of Chicago, Tom worked his way through college and law school while employed as a journeyman structural ironworker and, coincidentally, helped to build the Daley Center, Chicago's downtown courthouse. Along with his professional and personal accomplishments, Tom is equally proud of his civic accomplishments, including acting as Director for the Wendy Will Case Cancer Fund, Boys Hope Scholars Foundation of Illinois and Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago. He was also a member of the Scarlet & Gold Advisory Board of the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation.

Without a doubt, if asked their opinion of Tom Crisham, judges, opponents, co-workers, scholars, employees and friends alike will ultimately describe him as a fierce advocate, highly intelligent, highly respected, unquestionably fair, and the consummate gentleman.

EXPERIENCE

Schuyler, Roche & Crisham, P.C.
Chicago, IL

Shareholder
2009 to Present

Crisham & Kubes, Ltd.
Chicago, IL

Shareholder/President
2001-2009

Quinlan & Crisham, Ltd.
Chicago, IL

Shareholder/President
1996-2001

Hinshaw & Culbertson
Chicago, IL

Partner
1965-1996

PUBLICATIONS

"Your Witness - Lessons on Cross Examination and Life from Great Chicago Trial Lawyers", *Law Bulletin Publishing Company, 2008*, Contributing Author

"Architect and Engineer Liability: Claims Against Design Professionals", *Aspen Publishers*, Third Edition, May, 2006, Contributing Author

"Architect and Engineer Liability: Claims Against Design Professionals", *John Wiley & Sons, Inc.*, Second Edition, June, 1995, Contributing Author

"Protecting and Defending Insurance Claims", *John Wiley & Sons, Inc.*, 1989, Contributing Author

"Architect and Engineer Liability: Claims Against Design Professionals", *John Wiley & Sons, Inc.*, Spring, 1987, Contributing Author

"Human Life: Our Legacy and Our Challenge", *McGraw-Hill Book Company*, 1975, Contributing Author

"Abortion and Social Justice", *Sheed & Ward, New York*, 1973, Contributing Author; republished 1981 by Sun Life Publishers, Thaxton, VA

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American College of Trial Lawyers - Fellow

- Upstate Illinois Chair, 1993-1995
- Project on Electronic Discovery - Objections Subcommittee, 2004
- Special Problems Committee, 2003-2004
- Administration of Justice Committee, 2003-2004
- Special Problems in the Administration of Justice Committee, 2004-2006
- Drafting Committee for Uniform Interstate Deposition Act, 2005

International Society of Barristers - Fellow
Illinois State Chair, 2008-Present

American Board of Trial Advocates - Advocate

**EDUCATION AND
DISTINCTIONS**

J.D., Loyola University Chicago School of Law,
Chicago, IL 1965

Cum Laude, Associate Editor of the Law Review

Bachelor of Business Administration, Loyola
University, Chicago, IL 1962

U.S. Marine Corp (6 mos. active duty; 5.5 yrs.
active reserve) E-4 Corporal

Named as one of the Top 100 Super Lawyers in
Illinois by Key Professional Media, Inc., through
the research of Law & Politics (2005-2007 and
2009)

Named one of Illinois Leading Lawyers by the
Leading Lawyers Network (2003-2009)

Named one of the Top 20 of Chicago's Premier
Tort Defense Lawyers by Chicago Lawyer
Magazine (2003)

Listed in The Best Lawyers in America (2006-
2010)

Designated as a Super Lawyer in the 2009
Corporate Counsel Edition of Super Lawyers for
Personal Injury Defense

Illinois Super Lawyer, 2010

Defense Research and Trial Lawyers Institute

- Honorary Chairman, 1991
- Chairman of the Board, 1990
- Senior Advisory Committee Member, 1991-Present
- Voting Member of Corporation, 1991-Present
- President, 1989
- Secretary-Treasurer, 1986-1988
- Member of Board of Directors, 1982-1985
- Regional Vice President, 1980-1981
- State Chairman, 1978-1979
- Recipient, President's State Chairman Achievement Award, 1978
- Recipient, President's Achievement Award as Chairman, Federal Products Liability Committee, 1987
- Federal Products Libability Commitee - 1987

International Association of Defense Counsel

Chairman, Architects, Engineers & Construction Litigation Committee, 1986-1988

Association of Defense Trial Attorneys

Society of Trial Lawyers of Illinois

Appellate Lawyers Association of Illinois

Trial Lawyers Club of Chicago President, 1995-1996

Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel

American Arbitration Association Panel of Arbitrators

American Bar Association

Vice Chairman, Professional, Officers' and Directors' Liability Law Committee, 1981 and 1983

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Illinois, 1965

Illinois Supreme Court, 1965

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, 1965

U.S. Supreme Court, 1971

Trial Bar of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, 1973

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, 1978

U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois, 1991

CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

Wendy Will Case Cancer Fund, Inc., Director

Boys' Hope Scholars Foundation Illinois, Inc., Director

The Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago, Director

Scarlet & Gold Advisory Board, Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Member

Defense of Indigent Prisoners, 1965-1972

Chicago Bar Association

- Civil Practice & Procedure Committee
- Development of the Law
- Lecturer, CBA Continuing Legal Education
- Evaluation of Judicial Candidates Committee

Illinois State Bar Association

Master of the Bench, Judge Howard T. Markey Chapter of the American Inns of Court Foundation

Law Club of Chicago

Illinois Bar Foundation - Fellow

Lawyers for Civil Justice

Member, Board of Directors, 1989-1990

Leading Lawyers Network

Advisory Board, 2003

Product Liability Advisory Council, 1990-1996

Loyola Law Alumni Association

Recipient, Medal of Excellence, 1993

Member, Editorial Advisory Board of Insurance Outlook 1989-1990

Member, Board of Advisors, Expert Evidence Reporter 1989-1990