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Related Services

Advanced Technologies

Commercial / UCC

E-Discovery Management

Insurance Litigation

Intellectual Property Litigation

Product Liability

Securities / Finance

Education

The Ohio State University
Moritz College of Law J.D.,
2012

Grand Valley State University
B.A., 2009

Court Admissions

United States District Court for
the Eastern District of Michigan

Michigan State Courts

William E. McDonald, III *Partner*

William ("Bill") McDonald focuses his practice on commercial, insurance, and product liability litigation. Bill has counseled clients in matters involving the Federal Trade Commission, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the Department of Justice. Bill has extensive experience handling large-scale e-discovery projects.

Bill received his Juris Doctor (J.D.) from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in May 2012. Before his legal studies, Bill attended Grand Valley State University, double-majoring in Economics and Finance, and earned a 3-year merit scholarship from The Ohio State University for law school.

Representative Matters

- Secured summary disposition for a bus manufacturer in a product liability action stemming from a bus accident.
- Secured summary judgment for a vehicle manufacturer in action in United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan in which Plaintiff alleged product defects caused a fire in the subject vehicle.
- Secured summary disposition for U-Haul Co. of Michigan in an asserting claims of owner's liability and vicarious liability stemming from a vehicular accident.
- Obtained summary judgment on behalf of an automotive manufacturer in complex product liability case involving building fire in federal court.
- Obtained summary judgment on behalf of a bus manufacturer in complex product liability case.
- Secured summary judgment on behalf of property storage company long-fought battle over personal property in bailment and conversion lawsuit brought in state court.
- Secured international arbitration award exceeding \$3M on behalf of automotive company in breach of contract dispute.
- Managed and resolved multi-year, large-scale federal investigation response for Fortune 500 company involving cybersecurity practices.
- Obtained summary judgment on behalf of vehicle rental company in personal injury action.
- Obtained favorable settlement in high-exposure automotive negligence case involving claims of traumatic brain injury.
- Secured favorable settlement for automotive manufacturer in catastrophic injury claim in product liability action in California.
- Secured favorable settlement for vehicle rental company in high-exposure personal injury claim.

Professional Memberships & Activities

American Board of Trial Advocates, *National Trial College Fellow*
DRI, *Young Lawyers, Member*

Oakland County Bar Association, *Young Lawyers, Member*
Law and Capital Markets @ Ohio State, *Program Associate*
Entrepreneurial Business Law Journal of the Moritz College of Law, *Staff Associate*

Honors & Awards

Michigan Super Lawyers, *Rising Star* (2016 - Present)

Publications & Presentations

- "Cybersecurity Vulnerabilities for the Self Driving Car: Vehicle to Vehicle Interconnectivity and Associated Risks" ACI Automotive Product Liability Litigation Conference (July 2018)
- "Securing Vehicles of the Future: Privacy, Cyber Security, and Product Liability" IQPC Automotive Cyber Security Summit Detroit (March 2018)

William E. McDonald, III *Partner (cont.)*

- “Steering Clear of Cybersecurity Issues with Emerging Trends in Automotive Technology” DRI Strictly Automotive Seminar (September 2017)
- “Investigative Techniques Using Advanced Technology and Social Media Law Update,” Presented at Kentucky Defense Counsel, Inc.’s 2017 Spring Seminar (March 2017)
- “Updates and Trends in Warnings and Failure to Warn Claims,” presented to nationwide counsel for an OEM (January 2017)
- Attorney-Client Privilege, Investigative Techniques, & Michigan No-Fault, CLE presentation for in-house counsel and insurance adjusters (January 2017)
- “Investigative Techniques Using Advanced Technology” DRI For the Defense (December 2016)
- “Updates and Trends in Investigative Techniques...,” presented to nationwide counsel for an OEM (June 2016)
- “Michigan No Fault: Personal Injury Protection,” CLE presentation for in-house counsel and insurance adjusters (January 2016)
- “Protecting the Corporation’s Interests,” DRI In-House Defense Quarterly (Winter 2016)
- “Advanced Automotive Technologies,” DRI Strictly Automotive Seminar (November 2015)
- “Product Liability for Engineers,” Presented for University of Michigan UMTRI Program (December 2014, 2015)
- “Unusual Suspects: Criminalization of Corporate Conduct in Product Liability,” presented to the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms, 2015 Annual Meeting
- “The Rise and Fall of the Reasonable Expectations Doctrine in Michigan,” The Journal of Insurance and Indemnity Law
- “Confidential Information Handling,” presented to nationwide counsel for an OEM
- “Evidentiary Issues Facing Insurers Seeking Interpleader,” DRI For The Defense
- “Recall Part II: The Evolving Landscape for Suppliers and Their In-House Counsel,” presented at OESA’s Legal Issues Council Meeting

Personal

Before law school, Bill officiated youth, high school and adult ice hockey as a USA Hockey Level 2 Official. While in law school, Bill was an active participant in the Moritz College of Law Moot Court and Lawyering Skills Program, competing in the Lawrence Negotiation Competition in 2010 and 2011 and the Colley Trial Practice Competition in 2012. In addition, while studying law Bill worked as a general counsel legal intern for NiSource Inc., a Fortune 500 Company and as a law clerk for Brian G. Miller Co., L.P.A.