# 2019 IADC TRIAL ACADEMY FACULTY



Nancy M. Erfle, Director

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP Portland, Oregon USA

**Nancy Erfle** is a partner in the Tort & Product Liability Litigation and Environmental & Toxic Tort practice groups at Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP. Her practice is focused

on litigation, specifically on the defense of pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers; automotive manufacturers; agricultural chemical manufacturers; aviation manufacturers; as well as companies involved in commercial disputes. Ms. Erfle has served on national litigation teams and as lead local and regional counsel for both her pharmaceutical and automotive clients on many cases, including several mass tort cases. Ms. Erfle is currently serving as lead national coordinating counsel as well as lead trial counsel for a raw mineral mining company involved in a large mass tort pending throughout the United States. In 2007, Ms. Erfle served on the faculty of the IADC Trial Academy and served as a Board Member for the IADC from 2012-2015. She is consistently recognized by *Super Lawyers*, *Best Lawyers in America, Benchmark Litigation*, and the *International Who's Who of Products Liability*. In 2017, she was named a *Law360* MVP for Products Liability.



Michael A. Brown, Director-Elect Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP Baltimore, Maryland USA

**Mike Brown** handles complex cases in jurisdictions around the country. Mr. Brown has experience in the areas of product liability defense, mass tort litigation, employment

law, medical malpractice, and insurance defense, as well as commercial and real estate litigation matters. In addition to his national clients, Mr. Brown also serves as general counsel to numerous local companies and corporations, advising on a variety of matters related to employment and business litigation; real estate issues; and concerns unique to the Baltimore-Washington region. During his 25 years of practice, Mr. Brown has represented large national corporations that run the gamut of industries which include 17 Fortune 500 corporations in numerous litigation matters. He has tried more than 80 cases to verdict for these corporations and has tried cases in 24 states, including in some of the most challenging jurisdictions in the United States, including Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Virginia, Mississippi, Florida, Ohio, California, Louisiana, Missouri, Arizona, and Washington, DC, among others. He has obtained defense verdicts in more than 95 percent of his matters, including a defense verdict in a landmark products liability asbestos action in Alameda County, California in 2006.



Sonia Bjorkquist

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP Toronto, Ontario Canada

**Sonia Bjorkquist** is Chair of Osler's National Litigation Department and Immediate Past President of The Advocates' Society, a distinguished organization of 6,000 litigators across

Canada. With industry-acknowledged expertise in advocacy, complex litigation, and class action defense, Ms. Bjorkquist has considerable experience conducting long trials in court and arbitration. She defends product liability cases across many industries and litigates business-critical issues related to commercial agreements, directors' duties, and shareholder remedies. Ranked among Canada's top litigators in *Chambers, Lexpert, Best Lawyers, Who's Who Legal,* and *Benchmark, Ms. Bjorkquist* is also featured as a leader in class actions in the *Lexpert Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Litigation Lawyers in Canada* and The *Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada*. She is rated AV Preeminent in Martindale Hubbell's peer review ratings.



Jane E. Bockus Dykema

San Antonio, Texas USA

**Jane Bockus** is a member of Dykema. For more than 35 years, she has tried a wide variety of cases, ranging from insurance bad faith; medical and legal malpractice; to

products liability cases; primarily involving drugs and medical devices. She has been trial counsel in several MDLs and class action hearings. She is an active member in the American Board of Trial Advocates, having been president of the San Antonio Chapter and is a frequent presenter at Masters of Trial demonstrations. Ms. Bockus has held numerous offices in her local bar associations and is a recipient of the Belva Lockwood Outstanding Lawyer Award from the Bexar County Women's Bar Association. In addition, she is committed to advocating for the victims of domestic violence and serves on the Board of the Bexar County Family Justice Center. Prior to attending law school, Ms. Bockus was a Texas history teacher. She is currently serving on the history and education committee for the San Antonio Tricentennial, which will be celebrated in 2018. Ms. Bockus received her B.A. from Southern Methodist University and her J.D. from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas.



Maja C. Eaton Sidley Austin LLP Chicago, Illinois USA

Maja Eaton is a global leader of Sidley Austin's Products Liability and Mass Torts practice and serves on the firm's Executive Committee. Her deep experience includes a

wide variety of product liability and toxic tort cases involving medical devices, pharmaceuticals, and chemicals in mass tort, MDL, and class action settings. She is currently lead counsel for clients involved in two toxic tort litigations involving multiple personal injury cases and class actions arising out of a refinery explosion and alleged airborne chemical exposures, respectively. Ms. Eaton is recognized as a leading lawyer nationally in Litigation - Product Liability by *Chambers USA* (2008-2017). She is also nationally ranked as a "Litigation Star" in Product Liability by *Benchmark Litigation* (2010-2018), which also named her to its list of the "Top 250 Women in Litigation" (2013-2018) and the "Top 100 Trial Lawyers" (2015-2018).



# Dennis S. Ellis

Paul Hastings LLP Los Angeles, California USA

**Dennis Ellis** is a partner at Paul Hastings LLP and is global co-chair of the Complex Litigation and Arbitration Practice group. Mr. Ellis is resident in the Los Angeles office and

concentrates his practice in consumer class action and product liability defense; unfair competition (Section 17200); business torts; environmental law; and breach of contract actions. He has worked for a diverse group of clients, including major retail chains, cosmetic, petroleum, pharmaceutical, and manufacturing companies, and internationally known celebrities. Mr. Ellis has been recognized by both clients and colleagues as an exceptional trial lawyer with a string of trial victories. His victories have been on behalf of both plaintiffs and defendants, among other things, securing a \$97 million jury verdict for his client Pacific Coin Management and obtaining a defense verdict in a three-month jury trial on behalf of his client General Electric Company.



Gary D. Elliston DeHay & Elliston, LLP Dallas, Texas USA

**Gary Elliston** specializes in the areas of toxic tort and product liability litigation. He is licensed to practice in Texas, New York, Oklahoma, West Virginia, Illinois, and Missouri as

well as the United States Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit, and U.S. District Courts of Texas. He has been recognized repeatedly by *Best Lawyers in America* and as a *Texas Super Lawyer*. Mr. Elliston has been engaged in the trial of cases involving thousands of claimants across the United States. He has been a member of numerous professional and charitable organizations, including IADC, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, American Board of Trial Advocates, Howard Payne University Board of Trustees, and Baylor University Board of Regents. Mr. Elliston also served previously as an adjunct professor at Baylor University's Truett Seminary.



Aaronson, Rappaport, Feinstein & Deutsch New York, New York USA

**Peter Fazio** concentrates his practice in defending tortrelated matters with a focus on product liability, toxic tort, and medical malpractice. He has significant experience in the

defense of product liability suits against major automobile manufacturers and has participated in several high exposure cases with catastrophic injuries and fatalities resulting in defense verdicts. He also assists his clients in the development and implementation of national litigation strategies. Mr. Fazio's client service and work product has been recognized by numerous clients, including Ford Motor Company who in 2005 named him as one of its "Next Generation Trial Lawyers." Mr. Fazio has practiced law in New York and New Jersey state and federal courts, and has served as national trial coursel in Florida, Indiana, Michigan, Alabama, and California. Mr. Fazio is an active lecturer on various topics including automobile product liability litigation and medical malpractice. He has served as a contributor to the New York Law Journal Smart Litigator on product liability and is a member of the IADC.



#### Chad R. Hutchinson Butler Snow LLP Ridgeland, Mississippi USA

Chad Hutchinson is a partner in Butler Snow's Pharmaceutical, Medical Device & Healthcare Practice Group.

He defends product liability, mass torts, AG enforcement actions, and medical/professional malpractice litigation. Mr. Hutchinson's work for the pharmaceutical and medical device industry is national in scope, including current representation of a client in the largest medical device mass tort in history. He is a member of trial teams extending from multi-district litigation and various state courts all over the country. Mr. Hutchinson is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been repeatedly recognized for Personal Injury Litigation by *The Best Lawyers in America*® and *Mid-South Super Lawyers*®. He received his undergraduate and master degrees from The University of Mississippi and J.D. from Mississippi College School of Law. Mr. Hutchinson is a proud 2006 IADCTrial Academy alumni.



Caryn Geraghty Jorgensen Mills Meyers Swartling, P.S. Seattle, Washington USA

**Caryn Geraghty Jorgensen** is a shareholder at Mills Meyers Swartling, P.S. where she has practiced since 1997. Ms. Jorgensen represents the interests of airlines, aircraft, and

component parts manufacturers, and airport authorities in litigation throughout the Pacific Northwest and the state of Alaska. Her complex civil litigation practice also includes product liability, municipal liability, and commercial litigation. She has tried cases to verdict in federal court in the Eastern and Western Districts of Washington and in state trial courts in Washington and Alaska. In addition to her busy litigation practice, Ms. Jorgensen writes and speaks on aviation and product liability topics and participates in numerous professional organizations. She has been selected to *Super Lawyers* from 2013-2018 and is recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*© in the field of Commercial Litigation from 2016-2019.



#### Michael R. Klatt

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP Austin, Texas USA

**Mike Klatt** is a litigation partner in the national law firm Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP. His practice over the last 30 years has focused on defense of mass claim/mass

tort litigation, class actions, and individual cases, with particular expertise in the development of medical and scientific defenses to claims involving pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and alleged environmental or chemical exposures. On behalf of manufacturers of such products, he has tried cases and led national teams that developed defense strategies based on sound medicine and science in many significant statewide and national litigations. During closing argument in one recent trial, a co-defendant's counsel said that during cross-examination of the opposing experts Mr. Klatt "had a knack for coming up with the right questions." He also has frequently lectured at CLE events and at law schools on product liability and expert witness issues.



## Kimberly B. Martin

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP Huntsville, Alabama USA

**Kim Martin** is a partner at Bradley and is the co-chair of the firm's Life Sciences Litigation Practice Group. She focuses her practice on general litigation with an emphasis on medical

device and pharmaceutical products liability litigation. She also has significant experience representing companies with regard to government investigations and False Claims Act litigation. Most recently, she served as trial counsel defending a nationwide hospice provider in a three month False Claim Act trial brought by the Department of Justice. The trial team's efforts ultimately resulted in a dismissal of the case. Her trial experience also includes defense of personal injury, products liability, commercial litigation, First Amendment, and labor and employment claims. In the life sciences area, Ms. Martin has represented multi-national pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers in litigation across the country. Most recently, she has been a national team member for sales and marketing issues defending a pharmaceutical company in multi-district litigation throughout the United States. In this role, she had responsibility for discovery and trial preparation related to sales and marketing issues. Ms. Martin has also served as counsel for several jurisdictions in hormone replacement therapy litigation. She has been recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*® as the Huntsville Commercial Litigation "Lawyer of the Year."



Tammy J. Meyer Metzger Rosta LLP Noblesville, Indiana USA

**Tammy Meyer** practices with Metzger Rosta LLP. She has been doing trial work for nearly 30 years. A significant part of her practice focuses on business litigation; drug and device

litigation; trucking; premises; products liability claims; and insurance coverage litigation. She frequently speaks at state, national, and international seminars, and is an instructor for NITA and for Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum's Trial Advocacy College. Ms. Meyer served as Chair of the Trial Tactics Committee of DRI, is a member of the Defense Trial Counsel of Indiana, and actively participates in IADC. She is former President of the IU McKinney School of Law - Indianapolis Alumni Board. Ms. Meyer is a Fellow of the Indianapolis and Indiana Bar Foundations. She has authored numerous articles. For several years, she has been named as one of the top *Super Lawyers* and "Top 25 Women Lawyers in Indiana." Ms. Meyer serves on the Board of the Indianapolis Humane Society, Arts for a Purpose, and the Indiana Education Employment Relations Board where she serves as Chair. Ms. Meyer I.D., *summa cum laude*, from Indiana WcKinney Law School.

#### Mark A. Prost Sandberg, Phoen Saint Louis, Miss

Sandberg, Phoenix & Von Gontard, P.C. Saint Louis, Missouri USA

Mark A. Prost is a litigation partner at Sandberg Phoenix & von Gontard. Mark serves as national and regional counsel for product manufacturers and has defended cases involving consumer products (talcum powder/ovarian cancer), toxic

torts (asbestos, benzene, welding fumes), transportation products (railroad, automotive, aviation, trucking), children's products, and medical products. Mark's jury trial experience includes several high-profile, multi-million dollar exposure cases. In 2016 and 2017, he served as local trial counsel for a talc supplier defendant in six separate ovarian cancer trials, helping his client obtain three defense verdicts, a mistrial, and two other verdicts where his client was found liable for 10% and 1% of compensatory damages. Other trial successes include a defense verdict in a railroad accident case where a train conductor alleged permanent eye injuries, the defense of a prominent business in 2018 where plaintiff alleged \$2 million in personal injury damages, and a defense verdict in a medical malpractice case against a pathologist. Mark also has appellate experience before the Missouri Court of Appeals, Missouri Supreme Court, and the United States Court of Appeals for the 7th and 8th Circuits. Mark is a published author, frequent lecturer, and Vice Chair for the ABA's Toxic Tort and Environmental Law Committee. Mark currently serves on the IADC's CLE Committee for the 2020 Midyear Meeting. In 2009, Mark was named an "Up & Coming Lawyer" by Missouri Lawyers Weekly, and for the last four years, Mark has been selected by his peers for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America.

## Terrence O. Reed

Federal Express Corporation Memphis, Tennessee USA

**Terrence Reed** is the Managing Director of Employment Litigation for Federal Express Corporation and has been litigating for 19 years. He manages and leads a team of

employment litigation attorneys who represent FedEx in state and federal courts and administrative tribunals throughout the country and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Mr. Reed has tried several jury trials in various jurisdictions including Memphis, Philadelphia, Dallas, San Rafael, Manhattan, Long Island, Newport News, and Norfolk. In addition to employment litigation, he specializes in class action litigation. Prior to joining FedEx, Mr. Reed was in private practice at Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis in Nashville, Tennessee where he specialized in complex commercial civil litigation. He is a frequent speaker and article author for the IADC, in which he holds many leadership positions. Mr. Reed will serve as President for the Memphis chapter of the American Inns of Court in the 2019 – 2020 term. He earned his J.D. from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law and graduated *summa cum laude*. In law school, he served as the Chief Justice of the Moot Court Board and as an articles editor on the Law Review Board.



John E. Tull III Quattlebaum, Grooms & Tull PLLC Little Rock, Arkansas USA

John Tull is a founding member of Quattlebaum, Grooms & Tull PLLC. In more than 100 jury trials, Mr. Tull has served as lead counsel on behalf of large and small businesses and individuals in cases involving business torts, breach of contract,

products liability, toxic torts, environmental litigation, securities fraud, franchise disputes, trade secrets, personal injury, First Amendment, and other matters. His trial practice includes multi-district litigation in state and federal courts. Mr. Tull is a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and the American College of Trial Lawyers and he has been named one of the leading business litigation lawyers in Arkansas by Chambers USA's Guide to America's Leading Lawyers for Business, The Best Lawyers in America®, Benchmark Litigation, and Super Lawyers.