



Craig A. Thompson

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Product Liability and Toxic Torts

Commercial Litigation

BAR ADMISSIONS

Maryland

District of Columbia

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland

U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

EDUCATION

J.D., University of Maryland School of Law, 1995

Listed in *Who's Who Among American Law Students*

Alumni Association Award (presented to a member of the graduating class who exhibits outstanding service to the law school through qualities of character and leadership)

"Proud and Positive" Award
President - BLSA

President - Law School Debate Society

B.A., (Dual Degree) University of

Craig Thompson represents clients in both federal and state courts in the areas of commercial litigation, product liability, premises liability and personal injury. As chair of Venable's diversity committee, he leads the firm's inclusion and diversity initiatives.

Mr. Thompson is an assertive trial lawyer and legal counselor with over ten years of experience handling civil cases before federal and state courts throughout Maryland. His analytical orientation and knowledge of technology, legal and business administration enable him to resolve numerous plaintiff cases by assessing liability and developing risk management strategies.

His professional motto—"add value and provide solutions"—has guided him throughout his career. Craig is AV Rated by Martindale Hubbell. An AV[®] Peer Review Rating Certification is a significant rating accomplishment, which ranks a lawyer at the highest level of professional excellence.

REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

Mr. Thompson's clients range from Fortune 500 corporations to mezzanine-level companies. He has also built a thriving practice representing pharmacies in claims of alleged drug misfills.

He was a member of the trial team that negotiated a multi-billion dollar settlement for the State of Maryland, the largest in Maryland history.

Mr. Thompson was a member of the team that defended a major pharmaceutical company in national litigation over one of its products, identifying and developing expert witnesses.

Along with Venable's Jim Archibald, he handled a multi-defendant personal injury claim on behalf of a major paint manufacturer.

He represented an international retailer in its defense against a commercial racial profiling claim.

HONORS

- "Business Advocate of the Year," Black CEO Summit, 2007
- "Alumnus of the Year," University of Maryland School of Law BLSA, 2006
- "Leadership in Law," *The Daily Record*, 2005
- "Outstanding Young Alumnus," University of Maryland, 2001
- Twice listed by the *Baltimore Business Journal* as one of Baltimore's "40 Under 40", June 2001 and September 1999

Maryland, 1992

Listed in *Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities*

Dean's List

Outstanding Attorney – Eastern Regional Intercollegiate Mock Trial Tournament

Byrd/Elkins Outstanding Male Senior Finalist

OMSE Award for Academic Excellence

MEMBERSHIPS

American Bar Association

Maryland Bar Association

Bar Association of Baltimore City

Monumental City Bar Association

International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC)

J. Dudley Digges Inn of Court

Maryland Defense Counsel

Defense Research Institute (DRI)

Fellow – Litigation Counsel of America (LCA)

- "Practitioner of the Year," University of Maryland School of Law, 2000
- "Emerging Leader," Monumental City Bar Association, 2000
- Leadership Program graduate, sponsored by the Greater Baltimore Committee, 1996
- "Craig Anthony Thompson Day," decreed by Former Baltimore Mayor Kurt L. Schmoke, May 23, 1992

ACTIVITIES

Mr. Thompson serves as an adjunct professor and lecturer for an upper-level, pre-law course at the University of Maryland, College Park, and is an elected member of the University's board of trustees.

He has lectured at Georgetown University School of Law, Howard University School of Law, Penn State Dickinson School of Law, Penn State University, Washington and Lee School of Law and the William and Mary School of Law. He also was a featured keynote speaker at the Sylvania Woods Conference, American University Washington College of Law, 2005.

In 2004 Mr. Thompson was appointed by the Superintendent of the Maryland State Department of Education to a special three-person panel charged with probing the financial, administrative and managerial practices of the Baltimore City Public School System.

He has served on the board of directors of both the Hospice of Baltimore and the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum.

Mr. Thompson writes a monthly column for *The Daily Record*, he is also the host of a weekly two-way talk radio show, and the author of a series of children's books on African-American history.

PUBLICATIONS

Mr. Thompson also has written numerous articles for online and print media outlets, and is the author of 2 children's books, *The ABCs of Black History* (Beckham Publications, 2004) and *The ABCs of Black Inventors: A Children's Guide* (Beckham Publications, 2009).

"Preemption Cases in the U.S. Supreme Court: An Analysis of *Riegel v. Medtronic*" – IADC Drug, Device and Biotech Newsletter, January 2008

"Corporate Board Diversity Leads to Corporate Success" - *Washington SmartCEO Magazine*, August 2006

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Through his company, Thompson Communications, LLC, an education and media-consulting firm, Mr. Thompson travels the country presenting lectures and workshops on leadership, diversity, and professional and personal development.

A former television talk show host, he currently hosts an award-winning interactive radio program that covers local and national issues.

He appears frequently on local broadcast media to discuss legal, educational and social topics.