



PAUL E. GODLEWSKI

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Paul Godlewski, a native of Minneapolis, knew long before he went to law school that he wanted to be a personal injury trial lawyer. Even before graduating from the North Dakota School of Law in 1973, Paul volunteered at the Legal Aid Clinic and worked with the Public Defender's Office.

While in law school, Paul was appointed to the Board of Editors of the North Dakota Law Review and had two legal researched articles accepted for publication. Soon after graduation, he began his courtroom career by trying cases assigned through the public defender system, as well as representing people injured in automobile accidents. Today Paul's practice is dedicated to representing the injured victims of automobile collisions, defective products, and poorly constructed or maintained premises. His clients include surviving family members who have suffered the wrongful death of a loved one. He represents clients from Minnesota in both State and Federal Court, bringing negligence claims for all types of injuries, minor to catastrophic, including traumatic brain injury, disfigurement, loss of limbs, paralysis, and death. Paul has also represented accident victims in many other state and federal courts.

In addition to obtaining fair compensation for his clients, Paul has helped advance the rights of injured people through his involvement in precedent setting cases in the areas of underinsured motorist coverage and products liability. One of his jury trials helped expand the law protecting unsuspecting consumers by requiring that manufacturers of defective products warn the public after the product is on the market.

Paul has seen that continued learning and shared information helps both his clients and all the injured people, and he generously shares his experience and expertise with others. He has been a long-term active participant in the Minnesota Trial Lawyers Association. Paul is frequently invited to speak at seminars for lawyers and other professionals in Minnesota and other states on topics including personal injury, products liability, wrongful death, disfigurement, traumatic brain injuries, paralysis, and jury trial courtroom tactics and techniques. He has published numerous articles for seminars and legal periodicals, and has authored chapters on specific injury-related topics. Paul has been an invited speaker with the 1998 National Convention of American Trial Lawyers Association and the National College of Advocacy.

GODLEWSKI

SCHWEBEL
GOETZ &
SIEBEN

PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEYS

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Personal Injury
- Wrongful Death
- Product Liability
- Medical Malpractice
- Railroad Crossing Litigation
- Motorcycle Collisions, (Experienced Rider Course, Certified by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation)

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

- Minnesota State Bar, 1973
- U.S. Federal District Court-District of Minnesota, 1973
- Eighth District Circuit Court of Appeals, 1974
- United States Supreme Court, 1976
- Trial Court-Leech Lake Bank of Ojibwe, 1999

EDUCATION

- University of North Dakota School of Law, 1973
- Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN, 1970
- DeLaSalle High School, Minneapolis, MN, 1966

JOINED FIRM

- 1990, became shareholder in 2002

PAST EMPLOYMENT

- Barna, Guzy, Hynes, & Giancola, Shareholder 1973-90

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Minnesota Association for Justice, Member, Board of Governors (1985-1996)
- American Association for Justice, Member
- Minnesota State Bar Association, Member
- Hennepin County Bar Association, Member
- Anoka County Bar Association, Past President
- American Board of Trial Advocates, Member

HONORS

- Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory -A.V. Rated
- "Top 100 Super Lawyers," Minnesota Law & Politics, 2001-2005
- "Top Attorneys," Mpls/St. Paul Magazine, 1999-2005
- "Top 40 Personal Injury Attorneys" in MN, by Law & Politics 2001-2005
- "The Best Lawyers in America," Consumer Guide, by Woodward/White 2001-2003
- "Super Lawyer," Minnesota Law & Politics, 1999-2005
- Minnesota Million Dollar Round Table, Member, 1993-present
- Certified as a Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy 1989-present
- Certified as a Civil Trial Specialist by the Minnesota State Bar Association, 1993-present

SEMINARS

- "Factual Development, Investigation and Pre-Lawsuit Work-up," Road Grade Crossing and FELA Cases Seminar, Guest Speaker, MTLA Annual Convention, 10/24/2003
- "Exhibits: Illustrative vs. Admissible—What Goes Into the Jury Room? The Evidence Factor," Guest Speaker, MSBA CLE, 3/31/2003
- "Making the Most of Discovery," Personal Injury Institute, Guest Speaker, Minnesota Institute of Legal Education, 11/8/2002
- "Pain and Injury Seminar," Course Chair, MILE, 6/13/2000
- "Closing Argument," Soft Tissue 2000-Winning in this Millennium, Speaker, MTLA, 4/7/2000
- "Use of Experts After Daubert & Kumbo-How Recent Cases Impact Social and Economic Damages Experts," Wrongful Death Seminar, Guest Speaker, MICLE, 2/9/2000
- "Low Speed Impact: Does Property Damage Equal No Injuries?" Guest Speaker, Iowa Trial Lawyers Association Annual Convention, 11/4/1999
- "New Cases in Expert Testimony," Handling The Automobile Accident Cases, Guest Speaker, MTLA, 9/16/1999
- "Pain and Injury Seminar," Course Chair, MILE, 3/26/1999
- "Low Speed Impact: Use and Misuse of Research to Support on Dispute Causation," Low Impact Collision Inquirers, Guest Speaker, MICLE, 10/20/1998
- "The Best Laid Plans of Insurance Industry: Strategic Nationwide Planning to fuel Declining Auto Collision Verdicts," Guest Speaker, National College of Advocacy, ATLA National Convention, Washington D.C., 7/14/1998
- "Handling Motor Vehicle Accident Cases," Guest Speaker, MSBA, 6/20/1998
- "Pain, Injury, and Disfigurement," Course Chair, MILE, 4/3/1998
- "Pain and Injury Seminar," Course Chair, MILE, 3/21/1997
- "Trial Advocacy in Minnesota," Presenter, National Business Institute, 1990
- "Drafting Settlement and Release Documents," Chair, MTLA, 1989
- "A Comprehensive Seminar on Head Injury and Life Care Planning," Chair, MTLA, 1989
- "Head Injury Symposium," Course Chair, MTLA, 1989
- "Products Liability Seminar," Co-Chair, MTLA, 1988
- "Working With Non-Medical Experts," Guest Speaker, MTLA, 1987
- "Minnesota Issues and Ideas," Guest Speaker, MTLA, 1985
- "Products Liability-A Practical Approach," Course Chair, MTLA, 1987
- "Settlement of Under Insurance Motorists Claims after Schmidt v. Clothier," Guest Speaker, 1985

PUBLICATIONS

- "Low Speed Impacts: Does No Property Damage = No Injuries?" Author, The Advocate (Florida State Bar), February 2000
- "What Every Trial Lawyer Should Know: The Impact of the Joiner and Carmichael Decisions on Expert Testimony," Author, MTLA Magazine Summer 1999
- "Low Speed Impacts: Does No Property Damage = No Injuries?" Author, MTLA Magazine, Spring 1997
- "Punitive Damages—A Constitutional Issue in Tort Cases," Author, MTLA Magazine, Summer 1989

HOMETOWN

- Ramsey, Minnesota