



JAMES R. SCHWEBEL

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In 1974, Jim founded what is now Minnesota's largest law practice specializing in personal injury litigation. Today, he and his partners lead a team of 17 attorneys and over 65 employees who are committed to achieving fair and swift compensation for their clients.

Less than 1% of all attorneys in the United States are selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America, Woodward White, New York. Jim has enjoyed this unprecedented distinction since its inception in 1988. He is one of only three Minnesota lawyers who were inducted into the Founder's Society of the Minnesota Trial Lawyers Association. In every year since its inception, he has been listed in Leading Minnesota Attorneys published by the American Research Corporation. Minnesota Lawyer called him one of "Minnesota's Top 25 Litigators." His achievements have been noted in Minnesota Law & Politics "Top 3 Personal Injury Awards." "Top 10 Super Lawyers" and National Law Journal recently acknowledged him as one of "Minnesota's Top Ten Litigators."

Jim successfully represented victims of the MGM Hotel fire in Las Vegas and the Williams Pipeline explosion in Roseville. In addition, he was appointed by the Court as a member of the Plaintiff's liability Committee to handle claims for many Minnesotans who lost family members in the Galaxy Airlines crash in Reno, Nevada. In a 2002 jury trial he received the highest award ever handed down for the wrongful death of a young man. In a 2002, jury trial he received the highest award ever handed down for the wrongful death of a young man. Jim received record post-trial settlements for victims of the Nicollet Mall Hollidazzle Crash.

Jim was one of the first attorneys in Minnesota to be certified as a Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. He was also chosen for membership on the American Board of Trial Advocates. Jim was appointed by the Minnesota Supreme Court to serve on the Board of Professional Responsibility and on the Board of Law Examiners.

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Personal Injury
- Wrongful Death
- Product Liability
- Medical Malpractice

SCHWEBEL

SCHWEBEL
GOETZ &
SIEBEN

PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEYS

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

- Minnesota State Bar, 1968
- U.S. District Court—District of Minnesota, 1970
- U.S. Supreme Court of Minnesota, 1981
- U.S. Supreme Court of the United States of American, 1971
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin, 1981
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, 1970

EDUCATION

- University of Minnesota School of Law, 1968
- University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, BA, Political Science, 1965
- Cretin High School, St. Paul, MN, 1960

PAST EMPLOYMENT

- Schwebel, Goetz, & Sieben, P.A., 1981-present
- James R. Schwebel & Associates, 1974-81
- Deparcq, Anderson, Perk, Hunegs & Schwebel, 1972-74
- Deparcq, Anderson, Perl, Hunegs, 1968-72

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Minnesota Association for Justice, Secretary 1980-82
- American Bar Association
 - Insurance, Negligence & Compensation Law
 - Twin Cities Advisory Council: 1987
 - National Panel of Arbitrators
- Minnesota State Bar Associations, Advisory Council: 1977-80
- Minnesota State Bar Associations, MV Committee: 1970-78
- Hennepin County Bar Association, Member, Ethics Committee
- Corporate Advisory Board of Mother's Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
- Ramsey County, Minnesota State, Member Motor Vehicle Committee
- American Arbitration Associations, National Panel of Arbitrators,
- American Arbitration Associations, Twin Cities Advisory Council: 1987
- American Board of Trial Advocates, Member
- Million Dollar Advocate Forum, Member
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Member
- Supreme Court Advisory Committee, Member
- Supreme Court of MN Lawyers, 1982-89
- Minnesota State Board of Law Examiners, Member, 1973-1982
- Standing Committee for No-Fault, 1975-1980
- Underwriting Committee of MN, Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company
- Blue Cross/Blue Shield Subscriber Litigation "Committee of Plaintiff's"
- Hennepin County Legal Medical Committee, Secretary: 1972-1975
- Central Minnesota Legal Services Board of Directors, Member
- Lawyers Credit Union, Board of Directors: 1983

HONORS

- Medical Malpractice Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory -A.V. Rated
- Named as "Top 10 Super Lawyer" by Minnesota Law & Politics 2003-2007 (out of 23,000 lawyers)
- Named as "Top 3 Personal Injury Lawyers" in Minnesota, Minnesota Law & Politics, 2001-2003
- "Minnesota Top Ten Trial Lawyer," National Law Journal, 1999
- "Top 100 Super Lawyer," Minnesota Law & Politics, 1991-2007
- "Top Attorney," Minneapolis/St. Paul Magazine, 1999-2007
- "Super Lawyer," Twin Cities Business, 1999-2007
- Named as "Top 25 Personal Injury Lawyers" in Minnesota, Minnesota Law & Politics, 2001-2007
- "The Best Lawyers in America," Woodward/White, 1989-2007
- "Minnesota Top 25 Litigators," National Law Journal, 1999
- Certified as a Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy, 1984-Present
- Certified as a Civil Trial Specialist by the Minnesota State Bar Association, 2002-Present
- Member of Corporate Advisory Board of Mother's Against Drunk Driving
- Minnesota Trial Lawyers Association Founders Society, 1998
- Certificate of Commendation, Minnesota Governor Rudy Perpich, 1998
- Academy of Certified Trial Lawyers of America, 1984-Present
- International Society of Barristers, 2006-Present

PUBLICATIONS

- Minnesota No-Fault: Underinsured and Uninsured Motorist Law, Editor, 1997
- Minnesota Underinsured Motorist Coverage, 1986, Update 1987
- "Practitioner's Guide to the Minnesota No-Fault Act," MTLA, Co-Author, 1981, Second Edition, 1983
- "Minnesota No-Fault Update" Minnesota Trial Lawyers Association, Author, 1979

SEMINARS

- Anatomy of the Personal Injury Trial", Guest Lecturer, MTLA Seminar, 2/4/2005
- "Wrongful Death Cases," Guest Lecturer, MTLA Seminar, 11/4/2004
- "Looking Back on Settlement Thousands of Cases-Plaintiff's Perspective," Guest Speaker, MILE, 12/10/2002
- "Holidazzle Trial," Guest Lecturer, MTLA Convention, 8/16/2002
- "UIM & UM Developments," Speaker, Complete Insurance Law Course: No-Fault, UM and UIM Law, 12/1/2000
- "UM & UIM Developments," Speaker, MTLA Seminar, 12/1/2000
- "Proving Damages," Speaker, MTLA Seminar, 10/28/1999
- "UM & UIM Developments," Speaker, MTLA Seminar, 12/1/2000
- "Proving Damages," Speaker, MTLA Seminar, 10/28/1999
- "Claims Handling from the Plaintiff's Prospective," Speaker, Twin Cities Claims Conference, 2/9/1999
- "Handling the Multi-Million Dollar/Complex Products Liability Case," Speaker, MTLA, 1/14/1998
- "What Went Right" "Failure to Warn in Major Products Liability Case," Speaker, MTLA, 6/26/1995
- UM & UIM Motorist Coverage, Guest lecturer, MTLA, 1/10/1995
- "Symposium of UM & UIM Claims, Part III," Guest lecturer, MTLA, 10/23/1994

- “No-Fault—Twenty Years Later,” Guest lecturer, MTLA, 5/5/1994
- “The Masters of Negotiation,” No-Fault Insurance, “Underinsured Motorist Coverage and Principles of Insurance Contract Interpretation,” Guest Lecturer, ABTA, 8/27/1993
- “A Plaintiff Lawyer’s Perspective on Minnesota,” Guest Lecturer, Twin Cities Insurance Club, 5/10/1993
- “Plaintiff’s Perspective on UM/UIM Issues,” “Minnesota Automobile Insurance Claims,” Guest Lecturer, MILE, 4/15/1993
- “Recent Developments in UM and UIM Claims,” “The Complete Insurance Law Course,” Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 3/12/1993
- “Insurance Coverage 101,” Guest Lecturer, MDLA, 11/13/1992
- “Minnesota Personal Injury Law—A Ten Year Perspective,” Guest Lecturer, MTLA Convention, 8/7/1992
- “The Complete Insurance Law Course,” Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 6/5/1992
- “Minnesota Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist” Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 10/18/1991
- “Wrongful Death, A Plaintiff’s Perspective,” Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 5/16/1991
- “Minnesota No-Fault Insurance Update,” Guest Lecturer, Minnesota Chiropractic Association, 11/9/1990
- “Minnesota Personal Law Update,” Guest Lecturer, Twin Cities Claims Association, 11/6/1990
- “Effective Opening Statement” MTLA, Contributor, 8/19/1990
- “Minneapolis Personal Injury Law Update,” Guest Lecturer, MTLA Convention, 8/17/1990
- “Presenting and Defending the Claim for the Seriously Injured,” Guest Lecturer, Twin Cities Claim Association, 4/6/1990
- “Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Strategies in Arbitration and District Court,” Guest Lecturer, MILE, 3/16/1990
- “Death Claims of the Young Adult, The Plaintiff’s Case,” Wrongful Death Seminar, Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 12/8/1989
- “Automobile Insurance Law Update,” Lecturer, MTLA 7th Annual Convention, 8/26/1989
- “Automobile Insurance Law Update,” Lecturer, MTLA 7th Annual Convention, 8/26/1989
- “Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Claims,” Lecturer, MILE, 8/17/1989
- “Legislative Changes—Underinsured Motorist-Uninsured Motorist,” Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 6/2/1989
- “Winning at Trial and in the Appellate Courts,” Guest Lecturer, MSBA/CLE, 3/24/1989
- “Minnesota Products Liability Law,” Guest Lecturer, MILE Seminar, 1/13/1989
- “Current Issues in UM and UIM Motorist Coverage,” Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 12/7/1988
- “Cross-Examination of the Adverse Medical Specialist in a Serious Orthopedic Injury Claim,” Guest Lecturer, Serious Orthopedic Injuries Seminar, 10/19/1988
- “New Developments in the Law—A Plaintiff’s Perspective,” Course Chairman and Guest Lecturer at No-Fault UM/UIM Law Seminar, 10/14/1988
- “Auto Insurance Under the Minnesota No-Fault Act,” Lecturer, Independent Insurance Agents of Minnesota, 10/13/1988
- “Underinsured Motorist Coverage after Broton,” Guest lecturer, MTLA Convention, 8/26/1988
- “Effective Cross-Examination,” Guest lecturer, MILE, 6/23/1988
- “Minnesota Civil Trial Specialization,” Guest lecturer, MILE, 6/22/1988
- “No-Fault Act Revisited,” Guest lecturer, MILE, 3/4/1988
- “Discovery and Trial Strategy,” Insurance Agent Liability Seminar, Guest lecturer, MTLA, 12/4/1987
- “The Chiropractic Physician in the Courtroom,” Guest lecturer, University of Minnesota, 10/31/1987
- “Underinsured Motorist Law Update,” Guest lecturer, MTLA Convention, 8/28/1987
- “The Minnesota No-Fault Act, Into the Second Decade,” Guest lecturer, Minnesota Institute of Legal Education, 2/7/1986
- “Facts that Count in a Wrongful Death Claim,” Wrongful Death Trial, Guest lecturer, MTLA/MDL, 12/15/1985
- “The Chiropractic Physician in the Courtroom,” Guest lecturer, University of Minnesota Law School, 11/23/1985
- “Handling the Automobile Injury,” Guest lecturer, MTLA, 9/27/85

- "Cross Examination of the Defense/Insurance Company Doctor," Guest Lecturer, Education Program Advanced Legal, Diagnosis and Proof of Personal Injury Seminar, 5/16/1985
- "Fair Claims Practices," Guest Lecturer, Northwest Claims Seminar, 12/1/1984
- "Recent Changes in Minnesota No-Fault," Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 8/26/1984
- "Anatomy of a Trial," Faculty Member, Mock Trial, MTLA, 12/9/1983
- "Minnesota No-Fault," Lecturer, MTLA Convention, 8/26/1983
- "A Neoteric Look," Personal Injury Advanced Legal Education, Guest Lecturer, Hamline University School of Law, 1/28/1983
- "Automobile Policy Exclusions," Guest Lecturer, MCLE, 12/17/1982
- "The Handling of a No-Fault Claim," Guest Lecturer, MSBA, 11/20/1982
- "Ethical Considerations in Drafting and Negotiating Settlements," Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 4/30/82
- "How to Prepare a Personal Injury Case," Guest Lecturer, MCLE, 12/12/1981
- "Overview of the Law of Arbitration," American Arbitration Association, Guest Lecturer, 11/4/1981
- "Maximizing Your Client's Coverage Under the Minnesota No- Fault Insurance Act," Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 9/18/1981
- "Civil Trial Potpourri," Lecturer, MTLA, 6/5/1981
- "Comprehensive No-Fault and Comparative Fault Update," Lecturer, MTLA, 5/20/1981
- "Dram Shop," Main Speaker, MTLA, 4/21/1981
- "No-Fault and Comparative Fault Update," Minnesota Supreme Court's Office of Continuing Education for State Court Personnel, Quadna Mountain Resort, Hill City, MN, 4/10/1981
- "No-Fault and Comparative Fault Update," Minnesota Supreme Court's Office of Continuing Education for State Court Personnel, 3/27/1981
- "Personal Injury Law," Guest Lecturer, MCLE, 10/2/1980
- "Minnesota No-Fault Update," Lecturer, MTLA, 5/16/1980
- "Preparing the Winning Law Suit," Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 11/7/1979
- "Proof of Damages—Products Liability Litigation—Criminal Defense Techniques," Guest Lecturer, ATLA, 5/10/1979
- "Rules of Evidence," Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 4/20/1979
- The Meaning of Wasche v. Milbank Mutual Ins. Co. , Guest Lecturer, MTLA, 12/6/1978
- "Stacking of Minnesota No-Fault Benefits," MTLA, 4/1/1977
- "You And The Law Program," Subject-Dram shop Liability in Minnesota, Guest Lecturer, Farmers & Mechanics Bank, 6/1/1973
- Subject Settlement Negotiations for the Plaintiff, Guest Lecturer, University of Minnesota Law School, 5/1/1972

HOMETOWN

- St. Paul, Minnesota