



ANTONIO M. ROMANUCCI, ESQ.
321 North Clark Street, 9th Floor • Chicago, IL 60654
312.253.8600 • Fax 312.253.8601 • Haromanucci@rblaw.net • Web: rblaw.net

Romanucci & Blandin, LLC

Principal and partner providing clients with experienced and technically advanced legal representation and trial preparation in catastrophic personal injury, wrongful death and workers' compensation cases. Specific emphasis is placed on cases involving traumatic brain injury, burn and fire-related claims, aviation disaster, medical negligence, vehicular negligence, product liability and police misconduct.

Romanucci & Blandin LLC - Chicago, IL

1998 to Present

PROFESSIONAL LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- Responsible for litigating major personal injury and workers compensation claims
1990-1998
 - General trial practice with particular concentration in workers' compensation, personal injury and Criminal
1987-1990
 - Representation of indigent defendants. Experience consisted of jury trials, bench trials and preliminary hearing
1984-1987
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LEGAL ACTIVITIES

- State of Illinois Supreme Court Rules Committee, 2012-2014
- AAJ Exchange Advisory Committee, 2011-2014
- AAJ National Finance Council, 2011-2013
- ITLA Nominating Committee 2013
- AAJ Section Leaders Council
- AAJ Board of Governors, 2010-present
- Secretary, Traumatic Brain Injury Litigation Group, 2013-2014
- Legal Counsel, Italian American Chamber of Commerce, 2010-present
- AAJ Motor Vehicle Collision, Highway and Premises Liability Chair, 2011-2012
- Public Justice Board of Managers, 2008 - present
- AAJ Journal Peer Reviewer for *TRIAL*
- Illinois Bar Foundation Chicago Fellows Committee, 2007
- Illinois Bar Foundation Raffle Chair, 2005-2008
- ISBA Standing Committee Law Related Education for the Public
- Suburban Bar Coalition Judicial Screener, November 2006
- Law School Facilitator, appointed by the Professionalism Commission of the Illinois Supreme Court, 2004
- AAJ PAC Committee Member, 2005-2007
- ISBA Torts Sections Council Member, 2005-2009
- WCLA Board of Directors, 2005-2008
- ITLA Board of Managers, 2003-present
- AAJ National Host Student Trial Advocacy Competition, 2001, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010
- Accipiter Award Committee, Fenwick Bar Association, 2000-2003
- ISBA Agenda and Programs Committee on Hearings, June 1999
- ISBA Assembly, May 1998-2004, 2006-2009
- ISBA appointment to the Task Force on Certification, 1997-1999

- President, Justinian Society of Lawyers, 2002-2003
- Treasurer, National Italian-American Bar Association, 2001-2005
- Delegate to Board of Directors National Italian-American Bar Association, 1996-1997
- Lawyers for Workers' Rights Organization, 1995
- Executive Committee, Justinian Society, 1996-2006

EDUCATION

J.D., John Marshall Law School, Chicago, IL (1985)
B.A., Psychology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI (1982)

BAR ADMISSIONS: Illinois, 1985; Northern District of Illinois, December 1985; Pro Hac Vice, Southern District Florida, 1985; Pro Hac Vice, Orange County, California, 2004; Pro Hac Vice, Clark County, Nevada, 2007

AWARDS/HONORS

- 2005 - 2013 AV Rated Attorney by Martindale Hubble
- 2013 International Legal Award for Practice Excellence for Aviation Law Firm in Illinois
- AVVO Top Rating 10/10
- 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012 and 2013 - Top 100 Super Lawyer in Illinois
- Named a "Best Lawyer in Chicago" for 2013 - 2014 by U.S. News and World Report
- 2003-2013 - Illinois Leading Lawyer's Network Top Lawyer
- 2013 - Top 8 Aviation Lawyer in State of Illinois
- 2012 and 2013 - Top 100 Trial Lawyer as certified by the National Trial Lawyers
- 2013 - Justinian Society of Lawyers Gerald Sbarbaro Mentoring Award
- 2010 - Justinian Society of Lawyers, Moses W. Harrison Recognition Award
- 2010 - Clerk of the circuit Court of Cook County, Excellence in Leadership Award
- 2007 - Certificate of Appreciation for Civic Contributions from the City of Chicago
- 2003 - John Marshall Law School Distinguished Service Award
- 1998 - David Award
- 1995 - Certificate of Merit for outstanding service in the program of Continuing Legal Education-WCLA Seminar
- 1989 - Constitutional Rights Foundation Lawyer of the Year
- 1986 - City of Chicago Citizen's Bravery Award
- Life Member of Who's Who
- Assisted Equip for Equality in Drafting Complaint seeking relief for disabled teenager
www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-met-0831-specialolympics-20100831_0,4838183.story

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- AAJ, Guest Lecturer, July 2013, Police Misconduct, San Francisco, CA
- Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Chicago, IL, Confidential Settlements, February 2013
- John Marshall Law School, Legal Implications of Concussions for Sports and the Military in the Future, October 2012
- Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Chicago, IL, Jury Selection, October 2012
- Law Bulletin Seminars, Chicago, IL, Rule 243 Examination - Questions from Jurors, November 2012
- Law Bulletin Seminars, Case Examination, November 17, 2011
- AAJ Program Moderator, July 2012, 21st Century Discovery and Litigation Techniques, Chicago, IL
- AAJ Program Moderator, July 2012, Litigation at Sunrise, Chicago, IL
- Law Bulletin Seminars, Jury Deliberations, June 7, 2011
- Litigation Skills Conference, *Hudson v. City of Chicago, et al.*, November 2010
- John Marshall Law School, Starting your own Law Firm, October 2010
- Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL October 2010, Anticipating Objections During Discovery and Motions in Limine
- Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Chicago, IL, Proving Damages in the Traumatic Brain Injury Case, October 2010

- American Association for Justice, Cross Examination of the Defense Neuropsychologist, July 2010, Vancouver, BC
- Litigation Skills Conference, Courtroom Visuals, April 2010
- Traumatic Brain Injury Litigation Group, Ethical Considerations in Representing the Client with Traumatic Brain Injury, May 2010
- Litigation Skills Conference, Juror Deselection and Jury Management Strategies, March 2010
- Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL, October 2009, Anticipating Objections During Discovery and Motions in Limine
- Illinois State Bar Association, Chicago, IL, Trial Primer, May 2009
- American Association for Justice, New Orleans, LA, Reconstructing the Complex Motor Vehicle Case, May 2009
- Litigation Skills Conference, Jury Selection and Strategies, March 2009
- Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL, October 2008, Anticipating Objections During Discovery and Motions in Limine
- North American Brain Injury Society, New Orleans, LA, October 2008, Voir Dire
- Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL, May 2008, Using Exhibits at Trial
- Illinois Trial Lawyer's Association, Chicago, IL., April 2008, Confidential Settlements
- Litigation Skills Conference, Moderator, Chicago, IL, March 2008
- Litigation Skills Conference, Panelist, Chicago, IL, October 2007
- Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL, October 2007, Anticipating Objections During Discovery and Motions in Limine
- Illinois State Bar Association, Collinsville and Lombard, IL, Moderator for 2 day MCLE Seminar, November 2006, Governmental Tort Immunity
- Illinois Trial Lawyer's Association, Chicago, IL, October 2005, Governmental Tort Immunity
- Association of Trial of America, Boston, MA, *July 2004*, Using Reconstruction Animations in Complex Transportation Litigation
- Illinois State Bar Association, Chicago, IL, February 2004, Training for Lawyers Participating in Mediation of Major Cases
- Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Chicago, IL, October 14, 2002, Litigating the Complex Case; Section 41 Claims Against the Chicago Transit Authority
- Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL., September 2001 and November 2003, Anticipating Objections During Discovery and Motions in Limine
- Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Chicago, IL, September 15, 2001, Premises Liability
- Knapp Burn Foundation Survivor Wellness Forum, Willowbrook, IL, May 2000, Maximizing Damages at Trial
- National Business Institute, Willowbrook, IL, May 1999, Workers' Compensation In Illinois
- Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, IL., April 1997, New Cases and Recent Developments
- Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Oak Brook, IL, November 9, 1996, Notice and Statute of Limitations
- John Marshall Law School, March 1996, Obtaining Successful Employment and Maintaining Success in Practice
- Union Local #134 IBEW, Workers' Compensation Remedies
- Union Local #134 IBEW, Structural Work Act Overview
- Union Local #134, Workers' Comp overview

PUBLICATIONS

- *Juror Selection*, Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, October 2012
- *Head Trauma Requires More*, Crain's Chicago Business, June 2007
- *Employees Should Know Workers Compensation Rights*, Star Newspapers Business Section, March 2007
- *Using Reconstruction Animations in Complex Transportation Litigation*, December 2003, ATLA's Motor Vehicle and Premises Litigation Section Newsletter
- *Born To Lead*, July 2003, Fra Noi
- *Litigating the Complex Case Section 41 claims Against the Chicago Transit Authority*, October 2002, ITLA Lawyer's Notebook
- *Premises Liability*, 2001, ITLA Lawyer's Notebook
- *Ignoring the Injured*, March 19, 2001, The Chicago Tribune
- *The Pegram Decision*, June 23, 2000, The Chicago Sun-Times

- *And Now, a Good Word About Lawyers*, December 29, 1998, Chicago Tribune, Voice of the People
- *Sound the Alarm*, March 5, 1998, Chicago Tribune, Voice of the People
- *Litigation Techniques For The Difficult Injured Employee's Case*, 1997 NBI Advanced Workers' Compensation In Illinois
- *Medical Issues In The Complex Workers' Compensation Claim* 1997 NBI Advanced Workers' Compensation In Illinois
- *Injudicious*, May 2, 1997, Chicago Tribune, Voice Of The People
- *New Cases and Recent Developments*, 1997 CBA Worker's Compensation Handbook
- *Statute of Limitations, 1996-2007*, ITLA Worker's Compensation Lawyer's Notebook

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- "Chicago 2016" Olympic Host Committee Member and Sprint Through the Finish Dinner Committee
- Chairman, Cameron Can Foundation Fundraiser, 2013
- First Vice-President, Italian American Chamber of Commerce, 2012-2014
- DCCC Fundraiser, 2006 to present
- Finance Chairman, Lisa Marino for Judge, 2011-2012
- Finance Chairman, Robert Fioretti, 2nd Ward Alderman, 2011
- Otis Wilson Foundation Advisor, 2010 - present
- Founder of the Adopt-A-Veteran program, Chicago, 2010
- Chairman JCCIA Cardinal Bernardin Award Gala 2008-2009
- Chairman IACC Gala 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012
- Honorary Board member, Giant Steps, 2005 - 2013
- President, Joint Civic Committee, 2010 - 2012
- Board of Directors, Italian American Chamber of Commerce, 2007
- Finance Co-Chair, Robert Fioretti, 2nd Ward Alderman Candidate, 2006 - present
- Genevieve Melodie 2nd Grade Reading Program, 2005-2008
- Board of Directors, Giant Steps, Inc., 2003-2005
- President and Founder, Justinian Society's Children Endowment Fund, 2002
- Board of Directors, Illinois Fatherhood Initiative, 2002-2006
- Invited Delegate by the Chinese Ministry of Health, People to People Ambassador
- Board of Directors, Barrington Area Arts Council, 2000-2003
- President, Midwest Brain Injury Clubhouse, 2001-2006
- President, Knapp Burn Foundation, 2000-2002
- Vice-president, River Park Athletic and Dining Club
- The Greater Barrington Area Lawyer's Guild, founder and President, 1996-1998
- Make-A-Wish Foundation Volunteer, 1994
- Wisconsin Alumni Association Career Connections counselor
- Constitutional Rights Foundation, seventh and eighth grade student instructor, 1988-1994

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL PARTICIPATION

- American Association for Justice (AAJ)
- Workers' Compensation Lawyer's Association (WCLA)
- Illinois Trial Lawyers' Association (ITLA)
- Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA)
- Chicago Bar Association (CBA)
- Justinian Society of Lawyers
- National Italian-American Foundation (NIAF)
- Fenwick Bar Association
- American Bar Association (ABA)
- Northwest Suburban Bar Association (NWSBA)
- Women's Bar Association of Illinois (WBAI)
- Melvin M. Bell Society
- Public Justice (PJ)

SIGNIFICANT LITIGATION INVOLVEMENT

- *Severin v. American Airlines* 4184
- *TWA Flight 800*
- *Poull v. Courtney* (Cicero fire tragedy -- Six wrongful deaths)
- *Domenick v. Dominick's* (Roof collapse; \$4 million(+) settlement sets record in Illinois for octogenarian)
- *Talley v. Barrington School District 220*, \$1.5(+) million settlement
- *Chmielewski v. CTA*, March 1999, \$5.33 million verdict
- *Tews v. Stoxen Chiropractic*, \$3.71 million verdict
- *American Airlines Flight 587*
- *Pietras v. Biddle Corporation*, \$3.6 million verdict
- *Kuprianczyk v. CTA*, January 2002, \$3.6 million verdict
- *Alaska Airlines Flight 261*, \$6.5 million settlement
- *Doe v. Doe*, June 2002, \$1.125 million settlement
- *Buhle v. Associated British Foods*, \$2.25 million settlement
- *Hudson v. City of Chicago*, \$17.6 million verdict
- *Wszolek v. Chicago Bus Co.*, \$1.75 million settlement
- *Deig v. Polaris*, Confidential Settlement
- *Dell'Oglio v. Concord Homes*, \$1.45 million settlement
- *Briefman v. City of Chicago*, Multi Million Dollar settlement
- *Bonnie Bobo v. Chicago Housing Authority*, \$3.65 million settlement
- *Milnamow v. Shedd Aquarium*, Multi Million Dollar settlement
- Southwest Airlines Flight 1248
- *Cabay v. Loyola University*, Multi Million Dollar settlement
- *Balzano v. Takaghi*, \$1.45 Million Dollar settlement
- *Yanakiev v. Confidential*, \$800,000 settlement
- *Depasquale v. Confidential*, \$495,000 settlement
- *Livingston v. Earman*, \$525,000 verdict
- *Lane v. Confidential*, Multi Million settlement
- 45 year old laborer, \$7.5 Million settlement
- *Tinman v. Christ Hospital*, \$22.3 Million verdict

INTERESTS

Racquetball, reading, computers, fluent Italian, travel, philanthropy, political fundraising, duathlete, marathoner

