



JOANNE ROUZAN DRISCOLL – Of Counsel



Joanne Rouzan Driscoll has represented major law firms and business organizations in litigation and on appeal on important issues involving class action claims and shareholder derivative claims, breach of contract claims, legal malpractice defense, whistleblower actions, public contract bids, products liability claims and personal injury claims. Joanne is an elected Fellow in the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers and has been selected, by peer vote, as a Leading Lawyer for civil appellate law since 2010 and as an Illinois Super Lawyer, Appellate, since 2016. In 2015, she was named as one of the top five women appellate lawyers in Illinois, and she served as President of the Illinois Appellate Lawyers Association from 2016-17. Joanne was the subject of an article in *Leading Lawyers* magazine entitled “Joanne Rouzan Driscoll: Her Leadership Pays Off for Clients and Peers,” *Women’s Edition*, March 2015.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

American Academy of Appellate Lawyers

- Meetings Committee Members

American Bar Association – Section of Litigation

- Co-Chair, Young Lawyers Leadership Program, 2007-2010 – Charged with developing young lawyers into future leaders.
- Co-Chair, Amicus Curiae Briefs Committee, 2001-2005 – Processed requests to the Section for sponsorship or co-sponsorship of ABA amicus curiae briefs for cases pending in the United States Supreme Court.
- Member, Rule of Law Task Force, 2006-2007 – Developed guidelines for consideration by ABA policy-making authority.

Illinois Appellate Lawyers Association

- President, 2016-2017; Vice President, 2015-2016; Secretary, 2014-2015; Treasurer, 2013-2014
- Board Member, 2012-2013, 2008-2010

- Co-Chair, Cases Pending Committee, 2008-2015 – Compiled and updated data and summaries concerning cases pending before Illinois Supreme Court.
- Member, Rules Committee, 2008-2012 – Propose amendments to Illinois Supreme Court Rules directed at appellate practice.

Women's Bar Association of Illinois

- Member, Judicial Evaluation Committee, 2005-present

Member, Illinois State Bar Association

Member, Chicago Bar Association

CIVIC AND CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Women's Bar Foundation

- Member, Advisory Board, 2015-present
- Chair, Advisory Council, 2010-2014
- President, 2003-2005; Vice President, 2001-2003; Secretary, 1999-2001
- Board Member, 1990-2010

Fellow, American Bar Foundation

Member, Catholic Lawyers Guild

Member, Kappa Gamma Pi National Catholic College Graduate Honor Society

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- Fellow, American Academy of Appellate Lawyers
- Listed, Illinois Super Lawyers, Civil Appellate, since 2016
- Listed among Top 5 Illinois Women Civil Appellate Lawyers, Leading Lawyers Network, Women's Edition, 2015
- Listed, Leading Lawyers, Civil Appellate, since 2010
- 1994, Gratitude Award, conferred by Illinois Lawyers' Assistance Program

PUBLICATIONS

- Editor of Guide to Civil Appellate Procedure, 2010-2017 – Reinstated and updated (after 20-year lapse) manual covering appeals in Illinois courts for use by attorneys and pro se litigants
- Contributor to Quick Takes – Timely summaries of Illinois Supreme Court opinions in civil cases prepared by leading appellate attorneys for ISBA members

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

- 2000-present – Forde & O’Meara LLP
- 1994-1999 – Law Clerk to Justice Joseph Gordon, Illinois Appellate Court
- 1991-1994 – Executive Director, Lawyers’ Assistance Program, Inc.
- 1983-1990 – Associate, Driscoll & Driscoll, Schaumburg, Illinois
- 1979-1982 – Law Clerk to Justice Helen F. McGillicuddy, Illinois Appellate Court
- 1978-1979 – Assistant Counsel, North American Company for Life & Health Insurance, Chicago, Illinois

EDUCATION

- J.D., 1978, DePaul University, College of Law; Note and Comment Editor, DePaul Law Review (1977-1978)
- B.S.C., summa cum laude, 1974, DePaul University, College of Commerce

NOTABLE CASES

- **Railroad Counterclaim for Property Damage in FELA Case.** Successfully obtained discretionary review and a reversal in the Illinois Supreme Court for Wisconsin Central in a case upholding the right of the railroad to assert a counterclaim for property damage in a FELA case. *Ammons v. Wisconsin Central, Ltd.*, 2019 IL 1244454.
- **City of Chicago Extraterritorial Car Rental Tax.** Successfully obtained discretionary review in the Illinois Supreme Court and ultimately prevailed on a constitutional challenge to a City of Chicago extraterritorial rental car tax.
- **Mayor Rahm Emanuel.** Successfully defended challenge to then-candidate Rahm Emanuel’s eligibility to run for Mayor of Chicago.
- **Price v. Philip Morris.** Served on team of appellate counsel in successful appeal reversing \$12 billion judgment that had been entered against Philip Morris.
- **527 S. Clinton, LLC v. Westloop Equities, LLC.** Served as appellate and trial counsel (on remand) in an easement dispute, obtaining reversal of a judgment that would have effectively made a valuable piece of property in Chicago’s South Loop unbuildable.
- **Guvenoz v. Target Corporation and Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.** Served as appellate counsel for the plaintiff in an appeal involving a products liability lawsuit brought against a generic drug manufacturer and distributor that asserted federal conflict preemption defenses. The Illinois Appellate Court rejected those defenses; the Illinois Supreme Court denied leave to appeal, and the U.S. Supreme Court denied the petition for writ of certiorari after requesting a response. This case was one of the first in the United States to reject a federal preemption defense raised by a generic drug manufacturer.
- **Certain Underwriters at Lloyd’s London v. Abbott Laboratories.** Served as appellate counsel in an appeal from an \$84.5 million judgment entered against the Lloyd’s insurers who sought to rescind product recall insurance policies on grounds that Abbott made material misrepresentations in its insurance

application regarding potential risks. While the judgment was affirmed, we successfully defended the insurers on a vexatious delay claim, which would have added an additional \$41 million in recovery.

- **Holz v. Makray Memorial Golf Club.** Served as appellate and trial counsel (on remand) for the defendant, obtaining reversal of a judgment that would have required the defendant to incur significant expenses in modifying a \$20 million redesign of a golf course.