

C. CRAIG WOODS
WOODS LAW & DISPUTE RESOLUTION, LLC
877 Pullman Way
Grandview Heights, OH 43215
cwoods@woods lawdr.com
www.woods lawdr.com
614-361-9729

EDUCATION

Legal: J.D., University of Virginia, 1981

Undergraduate: A.B. (history), *magna cum laude*, Dartmouth College, 1978

BAR ADMISSIONS

Ohio (1981); S.D. Ohio (1983), N.D. Ohio (1989), 6th Cir. (1985); U.S. Supreme Court (1987). Numerous *pro hac vice* admissions throughout U.S.

LEGAL EMPLOYMENT

2022-present **Woods Law & Dispute Resolution, LLC**; founder and owner; firm focuses on mediation, arbitration, expert witness services and consultation in legal ethics, loss prevention and complex litigation.

1983-2021 **Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP**, *aka* Squire Sanders & Dempsey; Columbus office –equity partner (1991-2019), Head of Columbus Litigation group (2015-18); Ethics & Loss Prevention Partner (1999-2021); various other client team and office leadership roles.

1981-1983 Law Clerk to the Hon. Robert M. Duncan, U.S. District Court (S.D. Ohio).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Fellow, **American College of Trial Lawyers** (inducted 2012; State (OH) Committee (2018-20); Professional Responsibility Committee (current)); **ABA** (Litigation, ADR, Legal Ethics Sections); **Ohio State Bar Assn.** (Litigation, Sr. Lawyers Sections); **Columbus Bar Assn.** (Federal Court, Common Pleas Committees); **Federal Bar Assn.** (Cols. Chapter); **Dartmouth Lawyers Assn.**

PRINCIPAL PRACTICE AREAS

General litigation, mediation and arbitration, with significant trial/ADR experience (as advocate or neutral) in mass/toxic tort defense, commercial/contract litigation; energy (land use litigation), environmental disputes; product liability defense, professional liability (malpractice defense); real estate (assessment, commercial lease, eminent domain). Consultation and service as an expert witness in complex litigation and matters involving legal ethics, loss prevention and professional responsibility.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

ADR: Currently serving as mediator, arbitrator, settlement counsel, expert witness or consultant in several complex litigation matters and/or legal ethics issues. Began ADR service in 1993 as Settlement Week mediator for the Franklin County [OH] Court of Common Pleas; subsequently served in a similar role for the S.D. Ohio; since then have served as a private or court-appointed mediator in more than 100 cases or disputes, including commercial litigation, employment matters, environmental claims, and complicated intra-family business disagreements. Recently mediated a high-profile dispute between a nationally known head coach and the university that fired him. **Legal Ethics:** Handled numerous conflicts issues and potential claims involving former firm as ethics and loss prevention counsel; currently consulting with or representing other firms in legal ethics matters; have testified as an expert in several professional liability cases involving alleged ethics violations. **Litigation:** Have tried, litigated or otherwise resolved hundreds of lawsuits over 40 years, including: *DuPont C8 MDL* (2012 – 2019) – core trial team member in toxic tort MDL involving ~3,500 plaintiffs; *Enterprise ATEX Pipeline Project* (2011-2013) –oversaw Ohio litigation for major ethane pipeline project; *Little Hocking v. DuPont* (2010- present) – trial counsel for DuPont in Ohio environmental litigation involving PFOA; *Merck/Ohio Vioxx Cases* (2006-2007) – served as Ohio counsel for Merck in defense of Vioxx cases; TRW Automotive Product Cases (2004-09) – defended leading manufacturer of seat belts and airbags in numerous product liability cases, including *Viggiano v. Ford* (D. S.C. 2005) [led trial team that won defense verdict in leading test case involving rollover death]; *ODI v. KPMG Bermuda* – successful defense of malpractice action; *DuPont v. Okuley* (6th Cir. 2003) – affirming declaratory judgment in genetic patent ownership dispute; *Sierra Club v. Columbus* (S.D. Ohio 2003) – obtained dismissal of citizens suit under Clean Water Act; *Handwell Co. v. CSXT* (S.D. Ohio 1999) – lead defense counsel in CERCLA private cost recovery action; *Firestone v. Galbreath* (S.D. Ohio, 1995) – successfully defended large law firm in complex fraud/conspiracy case; *City of Washington v. Ohio Water Service Co.* (Fayette Cm.Pl. 1993) – lead trial counsel in commercial condemnation case which resulted in award of \$10.4 million to client, a private water utility; *FDIC v. Roy* (D.Md. 1991) – member of trial team which recovered \$21.5 million for FDIC in action against former officers & directors of failed bank.

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

Listed in *Best Lawyers in America*; various categories, including “Bet-The-Company Litigation”, 2006-present (Columbus Lawyer of the Year, 2020); *Ohio Super Lawyers*, 2006-present (“Top 50” in Columbus, 2010, 2012; Environmental Litigator of the Year, 2013 & 2016); and *Legal 500 U.S.*(Product Liability). Named to Law 360 Legal Ethics Editorial Advisory Board, 2020. S.D. Ohio Mediation Award, 2003. “Meeting the Challenge” Award, DuPont Legal, 2001.

**COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT**

Action for Children (*pro bono* counsel, 1998-2001); Olentangy Rotary Club (charter member, director, past president, 1995-2015); Olentangy Rotary Foundation (founder, charter board member, 2004-2015); Olentangy Local Schools Development Committee (member, 1997-2007); Olentangy Education Foundation (board member, 1999-2005); Dartmouth Club of Central Ohio (Executive Committee, 1985-1989, alumni interviewer, 1985-2012); volunteer and pro bono counsel, Flying Horse Farms (2013-present).

**SELECTED ARTICLES &
PRESENTATIONS**

“Common Conflict of Interest Issues”, speaker, SS&D University, Miami, FL, September 2005.

“Effective Written Advocacy”, presentation for SS&D Summer Associates, 2000-2005 (annual event), including handouts of selected material on subject.

“Ethical Concerns for New Associates: Conflicts, Confidentiality, Client Investment & Other Career-Limiting Gestures”, speaker, SS&D New Associate Orientation, 2001-2008 (annual event)

“Ethical Concerns for Summer Clerks: Client Confidentiality & Other CLGs”, speaker, SS&D Summer Associate Seminar, 2001-08 (annual event).

“Ethical Overview for Associates”, featured speaker at Brownbag Lunch session for Columbus office associates, September 2016.

“Ethical Toxins: Selected Legal Ethics Issues for In-House Counsel”, series of CLE presentations to the annual spring meeting of the Chemicals Roundtable of industry GCs in Washington, D.C., 2014-21.

“Negotiation Strategies for Women [Attorneys]”, panelist, Ohio CLE Institute, 1994.

“New Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct – Highlighting Some Changes in Ohio Ethics Law”, presentation delivered at SS&D Ethics, Professionalism and Substance Abuse CLE Seminar, 12/13-14/2006 (Columbus and Cleveland).

“To Speak or Not to Speak: New Duties (and Quandaries) Under the New Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct”, presentation delivered at SS&D Ethics, Professionalism and Substance Abuse CLE Program, 12/10-11/2008 (Columbus and Cleveland).

“Facebook, Blogs and Other Virtual Traps: The Risk of Accidental Clients and Unanticipated Duties”, presentation and written materials presented at SS&D Ethics, Professionalism and Substance Abuse CLE Program, 12/8 and 12/9/09 (Columbus and Cleveland).

“Clash of the Titans: Lawyer Duties of Confidentiality Versus Lawyer Duties of Disclosure”, presentation (video and live) and written materials for Squire Sanders Ethics, Professionalism and Substance Abuse CLE Program, 12/6/11 (Columbus) and 12/7/11 (Cleveland). Program also available on Cognistar and other online CLE providers.

“A Tale of Two Summers: Tension Between Confidentiality and Conflicts in Hiring”, presentation (video and live) and written materials for Squire Sanders Ethics, Professionalism and Substance Abuse CLE Program, 12/4/12 (Columbus) and 12/5/12 (Cleveland).

“Case Note: Ohio City Pays \$10.4 Million to Appropriate Privately Held Water System”, *ABA Committee on Condemnation, Zoning and Land Use, Summer 1994 Newsletter*.

“Cost-Effective Commercial Litigation”, *Business Law Journal*, November 1999.

“Memo to Young Lawyers” Please Write (Well)”, Bar Briefs (Columbus Bar Assn.), December 2001.

“Winning Through Collaboration, A White Paper by the DuPont Collaboration Task Force”, unpublished, 2000.

“Mediation in the United States, An Overview”, Presentation to the Spanish Institute for Mediation and Dispute Resolution, Madrid, 2016.

“Anatomy of a Mediation”, Guest Lecture delivered to FL International University Law School Negotiation Seminar, 2022-23.

PERSONAL

Born Laredo, Texas (2/9/56). Married (Carole Watkins); five daughters.