

CURRICULUM VITAE

JOHN M. ALTON

Experience:

John M. Alton Co., L.P.A.
1071 S. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43206-3412

Owner: March 1, 1998 – present

Ray & Alton LLP (dissolved)
175 S. 3rd Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Partner: March 1, 1994 – February 28, 1998

Lane, Alton & Horst LLC
2 Miranova Place
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Associate: November 4, 1977 – December 31, 1981

Partner: January 1, 1982 – February 28, 1994 (Trial Department Chair, 1986-1993; Client Development Chair, 1986-1993; Executive Committee, 1990-1992)

Areas of Concentration

Mediator in business litigation, medical negligence, personal injury, wrongful death, product liability, medical device product liability, legal malpractice, employment, negligent security, premises liability, intentional tort, political subdivision liability, 1983 actions and CSPA cases.

Trials

Have been sole or lead counsel in 60 trials (40 as a defense lawyer; 20 as a plaintiff's lawyer)

Appeals

Have argued 15+ cases in Courts of Appeal or Ohio Supreme Court

Certification

Certified as a Civil Trial Advocate (National Board of Trial Advocacy: 1997)

Mediations (including Virtual Mediations)

Served as a mediator throughout Ohio in more than 225 cases

Martindale-Hubbell Rating

AV

Recognition

1. American College of Trial Lawyers (Fellow, 2000 – 2020; Ohio Chapter State Committee, 2009 – 2019; Outreach Committee, Ohio Liaison: 2014-2015; Diversity Initiative, Ohio Chapter Liaison: 2016-2017; Ohio Chapter Vice Chair: 2015– 2017, Ohio Chapter Chair, 2017-2019; Ohio Chapter Ex-Officio, 2019-2020)
2. American Board of Trial Advocates (1996 – 2020; Executive Committee (2016-2020); Treasurer (2019); Secretary (2020); President – Elect (2021)
3. International Association of Defense Counsel (1984 – 1994)
4. Ohio Super Lawyers: Personal Injury Plaintiff – Medical Malpractice (2004 – 2020)
5. *The Best Lawyers in America*, Lawyer of the Year in Plaintiff’s Professional Malpractice (2020)
6. Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers: Medical Malpractice (1993 – 2020)

Professional Memberships and Certifications

1. Columbus Bar Association (1977-2020; Publications Committee: 1978; Professional Ethics Committee: 1996 – 1998)
2. Columbus Bar Foundation (1982 – 2020)
3. Ohio State Bar Association (1977 – 2020)
4. Ohio State Bar Foundation (Fellow: 2005 – 2020)
5. Ohio Supreme Court Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution (1997 – 1999)

Speeches and Presentations

- “Jury Interrogatories” – Columbus Bar Association (1982 & 1983)
- “Trial of a Comparative Negligence Case” – Columbus Bar Association (1983)
- “Pleadings and Discovery” – Columbus Bar Association (1987)
- “Insurance Agents: Errors and Omissions Claims Against” – Columbus Claims

- Association, Inc. (1990),
- “Uninsured and Underinsured Motorists Coverage in Ohio” – Columbus Claims Association, Inc. (1990)
 - “Opening Statements and Closing Arguments” – OSBA CLE Institute (1990)
 - “Medical Malpractice, Products Liability, How to Assess Damages: Wage Loss Assessment, Cost of Future Care, and Impairment of Earning Capacity” – National Business Institute, Inc. (1988 – 1991)
 - “Mock Deposition: Dental Malpractice” – Ohio Dental Association Annual Meeting (1990 – 1991)
 - “Principles of Medical and Hospital Risk Management” – The Medical Protective Company (1992)
 - “Anatomy of Medical Negligence Lawsuit” – Columbus and Franklin County Academy of Medicine (1992)
 - “Risk Management – Medical Care Providers” – Riverside Methodist Hospital d/b/a OhioHealth (1992)
 - “Liability for Failure to Diagnose Chemical Dependency” – Ohio Affiliate of National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (1994)
 - “Closing Argument: Plaintiff’s Perspective” – OSBA CLE Institute (1994)
 - “Persuasion in Closing Argument” – OSBA CLE Institute (1995)
 - “Wrongful Death in Medical Malpractice Cases” – OSBA CLE Institute (1996)
 - “Evidence Rule 702 – Beware” – Ohio Association for Justice (1996)
 - “Enhancing Damages with Elder Abuse Claims” – OSBA CLE Institute (1997)
 - “Direct Examination of Loss of Enjoyment of Life Expert” – OSBA CLE Institute (1998)
 - “Shaping Damages Around the Heirs” – OSBA (1999)
 - “Ethical Issues for Attorneys” – American College of Trial Lawyers (2000)
 - “Hedonic Damages” – National Business Institute, Inc. (2001)
 - “Direct Examination of Loss of Chance of Survival Expert” – OSBA CLE Institute (2002)
 - “Experts in Proof of Damages” – OSBA CLE Institute (2003)
 - “Anatomy of a Medical Negligence Case” (all day presentation) – Half Moon Seminars (2009)
 - “Damages in Medical Malpractice Cases” – Ohio State Bar Association (2014)
 - “Mediations” – American College of Trial Lawyers (2016)
 - “Mediations” – Legal Aid Lawyers (2017)
 - “Mediations” – Ohio Association for Justice (2018)
 - “Mediations” (Roundtable) – Ohio Association for Justice (2019)
 - “Selling the Defense Case” – Ohio Association of Civil Trial Attorneys (2019)
 - “Damages” – Ohio State Legal Services Association (OSLSA), Trial Advocacy Skills

- Training (2019)
- Mediations “Virtual or Otherwise: Techniques to Effectuate Settlement” – Ohio Association for Justice (2020)
 - Mediations “Virtual or Otherwise: Techniques to Effectuate Settlement” – Stark County Association for Justice (2020)

Publications

1. “Attorney Malpractice in Franklin County, Ohio” – Columbus Bar Association Briefs (1978)
2. Personal Injury Litigation Practice in Ohio (Co-author, 1988 – 1991)
3. “Evidence Rule 702 - Beware”, Ohio Trial (1996)
4. “Contingent Fee Agreements Clarified,” CBA Today, The Daily Reporter (1996)
5. “Anatomy of a Medical Negligence Case”, Half Moon Seminars (2009)
6. “Theobald v. University of Cincinnati – The Duty to Dually File Medical Claims”, Ohio Trial (2010)
7. “Pothole Neglect”, Ohio Trial (2013), Vo. 23, Issue 1
8. “Immunity Door Ajar?”, Ohio Trial (2017), Vol. 27, Issue 1

Bar Admissions

1. Ohio (1977)
2. U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio (1978)
3. U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio (1994)
4. U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit (1987)
5. U.S. Supreme Court (1988)

Education

1. Columbus Academy (1962-1970)
2. Duke University, Cum Laude with Distinction in Psychology (B.A., 1974)
3. Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law (J.D., 1977)

Civic Activities

1. Gahanna-Jefferson (Ohio) Public Schools
 - a. Co-Chair, Operating Levy (1991)
 - b. Co-Chair, Bond Issue (1992)
2. Columbus Academy
 - a. Class Agent, Class of 1970 (1977 – 2000)
 - b. Alumni Board (1980 – 1983; 1989 – 1992)
3. Committees to elect or re-elect the following Judges or judicial candidates: David E. Cain, John A. Connor, Richard S. Sheward, Patrick M. McGrath, Peggy L. Bryant (Deceased), Robert Montgomery, Jennifer French and Julie Lynch

4. Chair, Finance Committee to Elect Richard D. Brown, Franklin County Court of Appeals, 10th District (2008)
5. Committees to elect or re-elect the following other officeholders: Jim Karnes, (former Franklin County Sheriff); Palmer McNeal (former Franklin County Recorder); and Joseph W. Testa (former County Recorder and Auditor)