



**Rami Fakhouri**  
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An accomplished trial and appellate litigator, Rami brings strong critical reasoning and communication skills to the table for a diverse set of clients in products liability and complex commercial matters. His keen interest in complex legal issues and creative use of procedural strategies have led to winning results, including a successful motion for judgment on the pleadings in a multimillion-dollar patent ownership dispute, a string of dismissals on preemption grounds in nationwide product liability cases, and a rare grant of rehearing and reversal of summary judgment en banc before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Rami's broad skill set has enabled him to excel whether he is preparing and examining witnesses at trial, taking and defending depositions, drafting and arguing dispositive motions, or coordinating and implementing strategy in complex litigation in state and federal courts across the country.

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## Representative Litigation

### Zantac Litigation

Represents GSK in products liability litigation consolidated in Cook County, Illinois involving over-the-counter heartburn medication. Second-chaired first two Zantac trials for GSK nationwide, both resulting in defense verdicts. Cross-examined Plaintiff and laboratory testing experts and conducted direct examinations of medical and toxicology experts.

### Tenofovir Product Liability Litigation

Represents Gilead Sciences, Inc. in multidistrict litigation involving claims alleging kidney and bone injuries related to HIV medications. Deposited bellwether plaintiffs, treating physicians, and expert witnesses, defended depositions of Gilead experts, and represented Gilead in federal summary jury trial proceedings.

### Gardasil Litigation

Represents Merck in all aspects of multidistrict products liability litigation involving the HPV vaccine, Gardasil.

### Xarelto Litigation

Represented Janssen in a case tried in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas claiming personal injuries allegedly caused by Xarelto, an anticoagulant developed by Janssen and Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals (*Russell v. Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*). The jury returned a complete defense verdict for Janssen and Bayer in April 2018. Also served on MDL case work-up team tasked with taking depositions of plaintiffs and treating physicians in cases across the country.

### SynchroMed Litigation

Represented Medtronic, Inc. in products liability cases nationwide involving the SynchroMed® II Programmable Drug Infusion System. Argued and won dispositive motions on preemption and other grounds at the trial and appellate levels, took numerous depositions of plaintiffs and treating physicians, and defended a multitude of company witness depositions.

### Sports Technology Applications, Inc. v. MLB Advanced Media, L.P.

Represented MLB Advanced Media in licensing dispute concerning a trademark license for a mobile predictive gaming application. Second-chaired jury trial in New York Supreme Court, Commercial Division, in June 2021; cross-examined founder of plaintiff firm.

**Behaviour Interactive, Inc. v. MLB Advanced Media, L.P.**

Represented MLB Advanced Media in litigation regarding the development of a baseball-themed video game.

**Air Line Pilots Association, International**

Represented ALPA, the world's largest pilot union, as local counsel in several matters pending in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

**Lyles v. McNeil-PPC, Inc. et al.**

Defended manufacturer of Extra Strength Tylenol in product liability action in New Jersey Superior Court. The matter settled for a nominal sum on the first day of trial.

**Saybrook Tax Exempt Investors LLC et al. v. Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians et al.**

Represented bondholder in federal, state, and tribal courts in a complex commercial dispute stemming from a tribal bond issuance.

**Howard v. City of Detroit, et al.**

Lead counsel in putative class action brought *pro bono* on behalf of Detroit homeowners whose due-process rights were violated in connection with their residential property tax notices resulting in overassessments, delinquencies, and foreclosures. Secured reversal of dismissal before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit; case is pending in federal district court.

**Petties v. Carter**

Lead counsel for an indigent prisoner plaintiff in *pro bono* Section 1983 litigation alleging deliberate indifference to serious medical needs. Secured rehearing en banc and reversal of summary judgment before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Successfully opposed defendants' petition for a writ of certiorari before U.S. Supreme Court. Favorably settled the case on remand. More information on the case is found [here](#).

**Northern District of Illinois Settlement Assistance Program**

Represented multiple clients *pro bono* in court-ordered settlement conferences in Section 1983 litigation. Negotiated favorable resolutions of claims for national-origin discrimination, retaliation, false arrest, unlawful restraint, and malicious prosecution.

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**Private Practice**

Partner, Goldman Ismail Tomaselli Brennan & Baum LLP

Associate, Goldman Ismail Tomaselli Brennan & Baum LLP

Associate, Grippo & Elden LLC (now Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.)

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**Education**

**Northwestern Pritzker School of Law (J.D., *cum laude*)**

- Order of the Coif
- *Northwestern University Law Review*, Senior Articles Editor and Staff Member
- Winner and Outstanding Speaker, 2010 Julius Miner Moot Court Competition

**College of William & Mary (B.A., Government, *magna cum laude*)**

- Minor in Middle Eastern Studies
- James Monroe Scholar

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## Judicial Clerkship

Honorable Matthew F. Kennelly, United States  
District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

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## Publications

[Current Topics in Medical Device Preemption](#), American Bar Association, Products Liability Winter 2023 Newsletter (membership required)

*The Most Dangerous Blot in Our Constitution: Retiring the Flawed Electoral College "Contingent Procedure,"* 104 Nw. U. L. Rev. 705 (2010).

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## Of Note

Selected by *Super Lawyers* as an Illinois Super Lawyer (2025)

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Award for Excellence in Pro Bono Service (2021)

Selected as an Emerging Lawyer by *Leading Lawyers* (2019-2021)

Selected by *Super Lawyers* as an Illinois Rising Star (2019-2024)

Selected for *Benchmark Litigation's 40 & Under Hot List* (2019-2023)

Selected by *Lawdragon* as among the "all-star litigators" "who excel at representing principally corporations and other organizations" in complex litigation, including product liability, IP, and appellate, in the 500 Leading Litigators in America guide

Seventh Circuit Bar Association, John Paul Stevens Pro Bono and Public Service Award (2018)

Adjunct Professor of Trial Advocacy, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law (2018-present)

President (2015-2018) and Member, Justice Council of the Center on Wrongful Convictions

Member of Associates Board and Scholar Coach, One Million Degrees: The Community College Project

Chair, Goldman Ismail Tomaselli Brennan & Baum LLP *pro bono* committee

Contestant, *Jeopardy!* (TV broadcast, Dec. 15, 2015)

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## News

[Goldman Ismail Partners Receive Top Rankings in Benchmark Litigation 2025](#)

[Goldman Ismail Team Recognized as Law360's Legal Lions of the Week](#)

[Goldman Ismail Partners Named to Benchmark's 40 & Under Hot List](#)

[Goldman Ismail Secures Another Zantac Victory for GSK](#)

[Tarek Ismail Selected for American Lawyer's Litigators of the Week](#)

[Goldman Ismail Secures First Zantac Victory for GlaxoSmithKline](#)

[Goldman Ismail and Partners Receive Top Rankings in Benchmark Litigation 2024](#)

[Goldman Ismail Partners Named to Benchmark's List of Top 250 Women in Litigation and the 40 & Under Hot List](#)

[Current Topics in Medical Device Preemption](#)

[Goldman Ismail and Partners Receive Top Rankings in Benchmark Litigation 2023](#)

[Goldman Ismail Secures Asylum for Client Who Escaped Persecution in Honduras](#)

[Goldman Ismail Partners Named to Benchmark's List of Top 250 Women in Litigation and the 40 & Under Hot List](#)

[Goldman Ismail Wins Reversal Before Sixth Circuit in Detroit Property Tax Lawsuit](#)

[Goldman Ismail and Partners Receive Top Rankings in Benchmark Litigation 2022](#)

[Goldman Ismail Partners Named to Benchmark's List of Top 250 Women in Litigation and the 40 & Under Hot List](#)

[Illinois Appellate Court Affirms Goldman Ismail Win of Summary Judgment for Medtronic, Inc.](#)

[Goldman Ismail and Partners Receive Top Rankings in Benchmark Litigation 2021](#)

[Goldman Ismail Wins Summary Judgment for Medtronic, Inc.](#)

[Goldman Ismail and Partners Receive Top Rankings in Benchmark Litigation 2019](#)

[Illinois Appellate Court Affirms Dismissal of SynchroMed Lawsuit](#)

[Rami Fakhouri Recognized for Pro Bono Service by Seventh Circuit Bar Association](#)

[Goldman Ismail Obtains Summary Judgment for Medtronic in Another California SynchroMed Case](#)

[Goldman Ismail Secures Complete Defense Verdict in Philadelphia Xarelto Trial](#)

[Goldman Ismail Elects to Partnership Rami Fakhouri, Andrew Rima, and Doug Winnard](#)

[Goldman Ismail Secures Dismissal of All Claims Against Medtronic in California SynchroMed Case](#)

[Goldman Ismail Defeats Certiorari Petition in U.S. Supreme Court](#)

[Goldman Ismail Secures String of Dismissals on Preemption Grounds in SynchroMed Litigation](#)

[Goldman Ismail Wins Reversal En Banc Before U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit](#)

[Goldman Ismail Wins Eleventh Circuit Appeal](#)

[U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit Grants Goldman Ismail's Petition for Rehearing En Banc](#)

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## Bar & Court Admission

State of Illinois

Supreme Court of the United States

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

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