

Litigation • Product liability and mass tort defense: pharmaceuticals and medical devices

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Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP	
Tucker Ellis & West	
Winston & Strawn LLP	

Firms are listed alphabetically in tiers which are ranked according to priority

LITIGATION

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Chicago-based litigation boutique **Goldman Ismail Tomaselli Brennan & Baum LLP** was founded in April 2009 by several former **Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP** partners. It is a law firm that can provide 'very high-quality work and good service from experienced and skilful trial lawyers' who, while at their former firm, proved their worth in pharmaceutical product liability litigation by working prominently on Merck & Co's Vioxx defense. One of the founding philosophies of the new firm is to incorporate results-based incentives alongside modest monthly fees to promise efficient access to top legal talent. The new group has immediately made the shortlists of big life sciences companies faced with high-exposure lawsuits. It has inherited a national counsel role for Bayer concerning its contrast agent, Magnevist, one of the products involved in the gadolinium MDL in the Northern District of Ohio. **Tarek Ismail** has been retained by Merck & Co to serve as lead trial counsel in the first of a new breed of Vioxx cases. Set for trial in New Orleans in 2010, this will be the first federal court case brought by state attorneys general seeking cost recovery for state Medicare expenses connected with the client's withdrawn pain reliever Vioxx. The firm has also picked up work for Medtronic in litigation concerning Sprint Fidelis defibrillator leads and for AstraZeneca on Seroquel antipsychotic. Clients recommend Santa Monica-based **Kenneth Baum**, and Chicago-based **Andrew Goldman** and **Tarek Ismail** as 'very hardworking, very skilled trial lawyers'.

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Excerpts regarding Goldman Ismail Tomaselli Brennan & Baum LLP are taken from the 2010 edition of the US Legal 500