

WEBB'S MOST SIGNIFICANT TRIALS

Dan K. Webb

Name of Case: ***In re Ethiopian Airlines Flight ET302 Crash***

Year of Trial: 2022–2025

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Hired by The Boeing Co. as lead trial counsel to defend it in the product liability litigation stemming from the crash of Ethiopian Airlines Flight ET302. The litigation, comprising approximately 150 individual litigations, was consolidated into a single matter in the Northern District of Illinois.

Result: The first set of trials in the litigation, slated to begin on March 20, 2023, settled just prior to trial. Additional trials scheduled in 2023, 2024, and early 2025 settled on the eve of trial as well. Another trial is currently slated to take place in July 2025.

Name of Case: ***U.S. Dominion, Inc., et al. v. Fox News Network, LLC***

Year of Trial: 2023

Jurisdiction: Superior Court of the State of Delaware

Description: Served as lead trial counsel for Fox News Network and Fox News Corp. (collectively, “Fox”) in defense of high-profile litigation brought by Dominion Voting Systems, which sued Fox for defamation and US\$1.6B in compensatory damages and several multiples of that in punitive damages after it aired allegedly false claims about voter fraud following the 2020 election.

Result: Trial was set for April 2023. After jury selection, and minutes before opening statements, the case settled under terms very satisfactory to our client.

Name of Case: ***Versata Software, Inc., et al. v. Ford Motor Co.***

Year of Trial: 2022

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan

Description: Served as lead trial counsel for plaintiffs Versata Software, Inc. f/k/a Trilogy Software, Inc.; Versata Development Group, Inc.; and Trilogy, Inc. (collectively, “Versata”). Versata sued Ford Motor Co. in 2015, alleging the car manufacturer misappropriated Versata’s trade secret technology to create a “like-for-like” replacement of the software and breached the parties’ licensing agreement.

Result: After a three-week long trial, secured a unanimous jury verdict in client Versata’s favor,

awarding Versata more than US\$100M in damages and earning the trial team [Am Law's "Litigator of the Week" \(LOTW\) Runner-up honor](#).

Name of Case: ***Weiland v. The Boeing Co.; Larson v. The Boeing Co.***
Year of Trial: 2022
Jurisdiction: Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, Illinois
Description: I was retained by The Boeing Co. as lead trial counsel to defend it in this toxic tort case involving the "bleed air system" used in most of its commercial jets except the 787. My partner Sandra Edwards was engaged to try the matter alongside me.
Result: After months of pre-trial preparations, the matter settled on the eve of trial in April 2022. We continue to represent Boeing in several high-profile, high-stakes toxic tort cases alleging that exposure to heated engine oil and toxins led to various health issues, including *Larson, et al. v. The Boeing Co.*, which was filed in Arlington County Circuit Court (Virginia) and has been set for trial in October 2024.

Name of Case: ***People of the State of Illinois v. Jussie Smollett***
Year of Trial: 2021
Jurisdiction: Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, Illinois
Description: I was appointed Special Prosecutor for the Cook County Circuit Court to re-prosecute the case of the *People of the State of Illinois v. Jussie Smollett*. Mr. Smollett was charged with felony counts for falsely reporting a fake hate crime as a real hate crime to the Chicago Police Department in 2019. Dan acted as chief trial counsel in the case, gave the opening statement and closing argument, and conducted the examinations of the major witnesses.
Result: The jury found the defendant guilty of five felony counts for filing false police reports with the Chicago Police Department. The successful prosecution earned Webb [an Am Law LOTW award](#). On December 1, 2023, the First District Illinois Appellate Court affirmed Smollett's convictions and sentence, handing another victory to Winston's special prosecution team and [another LOTW Shout-out](#) recognition.

Name of Case: ***Rauner v. Kirkpatrick***
Year of Trial: 2018–2019
Jurisdiction: State of Illinois – Arbitration Proceeding
Description: Represented the defendant Harreld Kirkpatrick in an arbitration dispute with Bruce Rauner, former Governor of the State of Illinois. The arbitration dispute centered on whether the general partner of a private equity fund breached his fiduciary duties in connection with the distribution of fund assets. I gave the opening statement and closing argument and conducted the direct examinations and cross-examinations of several of the major trial witnesses.
Result: A confidential arbitration award was made by the arbitration panel on May 29, 2019.

Name of Case: ***Estate of Rebecca Zahau, et al. v. Shacknai, et al.***
Year of Trial: 2018
Jurisdiction: Superior Court of California, County of San Diego
Description: Defended Adam Shacknai against a wrongful death lawsuit filed by the family of Rebecca Zahau. Adam Shacknai is the brother of one of my significant clients, Jonah Shacknai, owner of a major pharmaceutical company. I was the chief counsel at trial, delivered the opening statement and closing argument, and conducted most of the witness examinations.
Result: After a month-long jury trial, the jury found in favor of Zahau's family in a 9–3 verdict. The case was subsequently settled by the insurance company on very favorable terms for my client.

Name of Case: ***Beef Products Inc., et al. v. American Broadcasting Cos. Inc., et al.***
Year of Trial: 2017
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, District of South Dakota
Description: Led a trial team that delivered a historic victory for client BPI in its defamation lawsuit against ABC and other defendants (collectively, ABC), that has been described as “one of the most high-stakes defamation court battles in U.S. history.” The lawsuit focused on the fact that ABC characterized BPI's product—lean finely textured beef—as “pink slime” and falsely implied it was not beef and not safe to eat. ABC's reports nearly destroyed BPI, which lost more than 80 percent of its business. I led the team in briefing nearly 100 motions, winning every significant motion—including briefing, arguing, and defeating ABC's motion to preclude treble or punitive damages under the First Amendment, as ABC's reports addressed matters of public concern. The team and I also briefed and defeated ABC's motions for South Dakota Supreme Court review of our motion to dismiss and summary judgment wins. I served as chief trial counsel for BPI, delivered the opening statement, and conducted many of the major witness examinations.
Result: After an 18-day jury trial, secured a very favorable settlement from ABC when the team was just beginning to present damages evidence on BPI's behalf. The settlement vindicated BPI's position in this closely watched First Amendment trial.

Name of Case: ***Federal Trade Commission, et al. v. Advocate Health Care Network, et al.***
Year of Trial: 2016
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
Description: Served as chief trial counsel for NorthShore University in one of the most significant antitrust merger challenges in the healthcare industry in the past decade. The FTC and the State of Illinois sought a preliminary injunction to block client NorthShore University's proposed merger with Advocate Health Care on the grounds that it would allow the two hospital systems to unlawfully restrain competition for general acute-care inpatient hospital services in the Chicago metropolitan area.
Result: After a nine-day trial in federal court in June 2016, the court ruled in favor of client NorthShore University, allowing the merger to proceed.

Name of Case: ***Backflip Software, Inc. v. Cisco Systems, Inc., et al.***
Year of Trial: 2016
Jurisdiction: Superior Court of California, Santa Clara County
Description: Represented Cisco in a major trade secret misappropriation and breach of contract trial wherein Cisco was accused of improperly acquiring intellectual property (including source code) from a startup company through its alleged wrongful dealings with an escrow agent and the startup company's former CEO. The plaintiff also alleged that Cisco had effectively acquired the whole company without paying for it, in part to ensure that a Cisco competitor did not buy the company or its technology, and that Cisco allegedly sought to isolate the startup's source code as a competitive asset that could be integrated with internal Cisco platforms. The plaintiffs were seeking more than US\$50M in damages. We narrowed the case significantly before trial by eliminating the plaintiff's claims for conversion, fraud, interference with economic relations, and interference with contractual relations via successful motions for summary adjudication.
Result: After extensive trial preparation, including preparing the opening statement and direct and cross-examinations of several witnesses, the case settled on very favorable terms for Cisco right before opening statements were set to begin.

Name of Case: ***Vandenberg, et al. v. Brunswick Corporation, et al.***
Year of Trial: 2015, 2016
Jurisdiction: Circuit Court of Cook County, Law Division
Description: Retained by Brunswick Corporation to challenge a US\$25M settlement agreement in a post-trial fraud dispute against Brunswick's trial opponents and their counsel. A judgment in favor of my client followed an intensive trial in October 2015 and a seven-month post-evidentiary hearing. I was chief counsel for Brunswick at trial, delivered the opening statement and closing argument, and conducted the examinations of most major witnesses.
Result: The court ultimately vacated the settlement agreement, ruling that it was procured through fraud, and entered judgment in favor of my client.

Name of Case: ***Western Sugar Cooperative, et al. v. Archer-Daniels-Midland Co., et al.***
Year of Trial: 2015
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Central District of California
Description: Served as chief trial counsel in a major false-advertising jury trial in federal court in Los Angeles between two large industries that compete in the sweetener market. The case involved a major courtroom battle between the U.S. sugar companies and our clients, the U.S. corn refiner companies that manufacture high fructose corn syrup. Our clients were accused of falsely advertising that high fructose corn syrup is nutritionally equivalent to sugar and filed a counterclaim alleging the sugar companies engaged in false advertising by making false statements about the health effects of high fructose corn syrup. The plaintiffs were seeking approximately US\$3B in damages.
Result: The case settled on very favorable terms for my client as the defense was beginning to present its witnesses to the jury.

Name of Case: ***ZF Meritor LLC, Inc. v. Eaton Corp.***
Year of Trial: 2014
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, District of Delaware
Description: Represented Eaton Corp. in a jury trial of damages for a long-running antitrust case. The chief issue for the damages trial was whether ZF Meritor's exit from the market was a result of Eaton's "de facto exclusive dealing" contracts, or, as we argued, ZF Meritor was a failing company that would have left the market regardless of Eaton's competitive contracts.
Result: In June 2014, my client successfully settled the dispute for an amount far below what the plaintiffs sought before the start of trial. Legal and market commentators commented that this was a major victory for our client.

Name of Case: ***HealthSouth v. Ernst & Young***
Year of Trial: 2010 – 2012
Jurisdiction: AAA Arbitration Trial
Description: Represented Ernst & Young, which was HealthSouth's independent auditor. HealthSouth filed an arbitration complaint in which it alleged that Ernst & Young was negligent and committed fraud in its role as outside auditor in failing to detect and stop a major fraud scheme committed by HealthSouth's senior management, officers, and directors. HealthSouth and its senior management had inflated the company's reported earnings by several billion dollars, and it was one of the most brazen fraud schemes in U.S. corporate history. The arbitration trial involved the testimony of 76 witnesses (15 live witnesses; 61 witnesses by video designation), with thousands of exhibits, and consumed 103 days of trial over a two-and-one-half-year period. This was the largest auditor malpractice case to go to trial and judgment. HealthSouth sought damages in excess of US\$2.5B.
Result: In December 2012, the three-judge arbitration panel unanimously rejected HealthSouth's attempt to hold Ernst & Young responsible for the consequences of its own misconduct. The panel entered judgment on all claims for Ernst & Young with no damage award. On appeal, on June 13, 2014, the Supreme Court of Alabama unanimously affirmed the decision of the arbitration panel. I delivered the opening statement for Ernst & Young and conducted the direct examinations and cross-examinations of several major witnesses.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. William Cellini***
Year of Trial: 2011
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
Description: The government alleged that the defendant was an Illinois insider political powerhouse who had engaged in a conspiracy to defraud the Illinois Teachers Retirement Fund (TRS) by agreeing to use his influence and relationship with Illinois public officials to cause TRS to make investments with firms selected by Mr. Cellini and other co-conspirators. Mr. Cellini's co-conspirators were alleged to have used their influence with Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich to defeat certain proposals that would have affected the business activities of TRS. I gave the

opening statement and closing argument and cross-examined the major government witnesses.

Result: The jury deliberated for four days and reached a split verdict. The jury acquitted Mr. Cellini on the more serious charges and convicted him on two lesser charges. The district court judge imposed a sentence well under the guideline range and Mr. Cellini chose not to pursue an appeal.

Name of Case: ***Woods and Woodhouse v. Wyeth***

Year of Trial: 2008

Jurisdiction: 8th Judicial District Court of Nevada in and For Clark County

Description: This was a major product liability jury trial in Las Vegas, Nevada, in which I served as lead trial counsel for defendant.

Result: After two weeks of jury selection, the case settled.

Name of Case: ***Verizon Communications v. Vonage Holdings Corp.***

Year of Trial: 2007

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia

Description: Obtained a US\$58M verdict for Verizon Communications in this complicated case against Vonage Holdings Corp. and Vonage America, Inc., for infringement of five Verizon patents related to sending telephone calls over the internet. A Virginia federal court jury of four men and four women found that Vonage infringed three of the five Verizon patents asserted. The jury also found all five of Verizon's patents valid and determined that if Vonage was not enjoined from continuing to infringe Verizon's patents, it would have to pay a royalty of 5.5 percent on all its future sales. Immediately after the verdict was read and the jury was excused, I moved the court for a permanent injunction seeking to prevent any further infringement by Vonage of Verizon's patents. The court granted the request but issued a partial stay allowing Vonage to continue servicing its customers.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Lawrence E. Warner and George H. Ryan, Sr.***

Year of Trial: 2005 – 2006

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Represented former Governor of Illinois George H. Ryan in his six-month jury trial on public corruption charges, including racketeering, mail fraud, and income tax fraud. The charges relate to actions he took while serving as Illinois Secretary of State and later as Governor. Governor Ryan had been the subject of intense media scrutiny in connection with his pardon of 171 Illinois death row inmates while he was still governor and his indictment in 2003.

Result: In April 2006, Governor Ryan was found guilty by a jury after five weeks of deliberations that saw two jurors excused and replaced by alternate jurors midway through the deliberation process. On May 27, 2008, the U.S. Supreme Court denied a request to review the conviction, despite a call for such a review based on allegations of jury misconduct and the government's

novel use of the mail fraud statute.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Philip Morris USA, Inc., et al.***

Year of Trial: 2004–2005

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

Description: Represented Philip Morris USA and its parent company, Altria Group, since its filing by the Justice Department in September 1999, including during a nine-month bench trial that lasted from September 2004 to June 2005. The trial itself was one of the most extensive in history, involving live testimony from 85 witnesses, prior testimony from 162 witnesses, and approximately 14,000 exhibits. At the start of trial, the government sought US\$280B in disgorgement (reduced from its US\$959B demand at the outset of the case). When the D.C. Circuit dismissed that claim on interlocutory appeal during trial, the government revised its demands to seek US\$130B for a national smoking cessation program, billions of dollars more for a public education and counter-marketing campaign, and the appointment of court monitors essentially to run the defendant companies.

Result: In her 1,653-page opinion, Judge Kessler found Philip Morris USA, Altria, and other defendants liable for violations of federal racketeering laws and ordered various types of equitable relief. Judge Kessler's ruling did not include any monetary damages, nor did it include court monitors. One leading tobacco industry analyst labeled it "a complete and unequivocal win for the U.S. tobacco industry."

Name of Case: ***Verizon Directories v. Yellow Book USA, Inc.***

Year of Trial: 2004

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York

Description: Verizon filed suit requesting an injunction prohibiting Yellow Book from continuing a nationwide advertising campaign that Verizon alleged was false and misleading. This was a three-week bench trial before federal District Court Judge Jack Weinstein. I was chief trial counsel for Verizon and gave the opening statement and conducted examinations of the major fact and expert witnesses.

Result: At the conclusion of the trial, Judge Weinstein ruled in favor of Verizon and the advertising campaign was terminated.

Name of Case: ***Vickie Carol Campbell Reese, et al. (Dusted) v. Wyeth***

Year of Trial: 2004

Jurisdiction: District Court of Upshur County, Texas

Description: Represented Wyeth as defendant in this "Fen-Phen" product liability jury trial.

Result: After three weeks of trial, the case settled.

Name of Case: ***WorldCom, Inc., et al.***
Year of Trial: 2003
Jurisdiction: U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of New York
Description: Represented a large group of MCI Debenture Holders to challenge the bankruptcy plan of confirmation for WorldCom, Inc. The case was prepared for trial in record time and involved very complicated factual and legal issues related to the WorldCom bankruptcy.
Result: After presentation of written opening statements, the case settled on terms very satisfactory for my clients.

Name of Case: ***Debra Wolinsky v. Wyeth***
Year of Trial: 2003
Jurisdiction: Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, Illinois
Description: Represented Wyeth as defendant in connection with a substantial number of product liability cases resulting from the manufacture and sale of the diet drug “Fen-Phen.”
Result: After extensive trial preparation, right before opening statements were to commence, the case settled.

Name of Case: ***Westside Cingular, Inc. DBA Celled of Ohio v. New Par, et al.***
Year of Trial: 2003
Jurisdiction: Court of Common Pleas Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Description: Represented Cingular Wireless in connection with a unique trial that resulted from a regulatory proceeding that created significant potential liability for Cingular.
Result: During jury selection, the case settled on terms very satisfactory for my client.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Microsoft Corp.***
Year of Trial: 2002
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
Description: Represented Microsoft Corp. in connection with a series of highly publicized antitrust claims brought by various federal and state governmental entities. Defended the company in connection with the remedies being pursued by the nine non-settling states. I gave the opening statement and closing argument for Microsoft, put CEO Bill Gates on the witness stand, and cross-examined some of the states’ witnesses before Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly.
Result: In November 2002, Judge Kollar-Kotelly ruled in Microsoft’s favor, upholding the settlement reached by Microsoft and the DOJ.

Name of Case: ***McCook Metals L.L.C. v. Alcoa, Inc.***
Year of Trial: 2001
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
Description: Represented Alcoa in a four-week bench trial. McCook Metals L.L.C. sued Alcoa, Inc. after Alcoa refused to renew a license that allowed McCook to manufacture an aluminum alloy used in the construction of airplane wings. Alcoa had two patents that protected a high-strength aluminum alloy it developed that was resistant to exfoliation, a form of corrosion unique to aluminum. McCook alleged various antitrust violations premised on an allegation that the two patents were invalid for a variety of reasons and could not be lawfully enforced.
Result: Before the court rendered its decision, McCook filed for bankruptcy and the bankruptcy trustee dismissed the case.

Name of Case: ***Howard A. Engle, M.D., et al. v. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., et al.***
Year of Trial: 1999 – 2001
Jurisdiction: Circuit Court of the 11th Judicial District in and for Dade County, Florida
Description: Represented Philip Morris in the first-class action brought by cigarette smokers for punitive damages to be tried to a verdict. The case involved a certified state-wide class of cigarette smokers who claimed to have suffered illnesses and diseases due to their addiction to cigarette smoking. I assumed the role of primary trial counsel for the punitive damages phase of the case. I cross-examined many of the plaintiffs' witnesses and acted as lead lawyer for the industry in the numerous court hearings throughout the trial.
Result: The trial lasted ten months, and the large punitive damages verdict was completely reversed on appeal with no remand.

Name of Case: ***Bell Atlantic Corp., Cellco Partnership and GTE Corp. v. Airtech Communications, Inc. and WMC Partners, L.P.***
Year of Trial: 1999
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
Description: Represented related entities Bell Atlantic Corp. (n/k/a Verizon), Cellco Partnership (a subsidiary of Bell Atlantic and n/k/a Verizon Wireless), and GTE Corp. (acquired by Bell Atlantic) as the plaintiffs in this monopolization, breach of contract, and fraud case between two partners in the first-ever nationwide cellular joint venture. The case went to trial.
Result: After opening statements, the case settled with the parties dividing up cellular properties. Settlement and Vodafone's subsequent acquisition of Airtech led to the creation of the entity now known as Verizon Wireless.

Name of Case: ***CTC Communications Corp. v. Bell Atlantic Corp.***
Year of Trial: 1999
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, District of Maine

Description: Acted as chief trial counsel to Bell Atlantic Corp. (as successor to NYNEX Co.) as defendant in an action brought by CTC Communications, Inc., in the District of Maine for monetary damages and injunctive relief, alleging unlawful competition and illegal tying arrangements in violation of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Sherman Act, and for breach by Bell Atlantic of an agency agreement (failure to pay commissions due under the agreement, among other breaches).

Name of Case: ***State of Washington v. American Tobacco Co., et al.***

Year of Trial: 1998

Jurisdiction: Superior Court of Washington for King County

Description: This was a complex civil liability case brought by the State of Washington in which all the major U.S. tobacco companies were defendants. I was chief trial counsel for Philip Morris and was also designated as the lead courtroom representative for all the tobacco company defendants on certain common issues. This case involved an overwhelming pretrial discovery schedule that included hundreds of witnesses and tens of thousands of documents.

Result: After two months of trial, the case settled for approximately US\$4.5B.

Name of Case: ***State of Texas v. American Tobacco Co., et al.***

Year of Trial: 1998

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas

Description: This was a massive civil liability case brought by the State of Texas in which all the major U.S. tobacco companies were defendants. I was chief trial counsel for Philip Morris and was also designated as the lead courtroom representative for all the tobacco company defendants on certain common issues. This case involved an overwhelming pretrial discovery schedule that included hundreds of witnesses and tens of thousands of documents.

Result: Just prior to jury selection, the case settled for US\$15B – reported to be the largest settlement of a civil case in U.S. history.

Name of Case: ***Bell Atlantic Corp. & DSC Communications Corp. v. AT&T Corp. and Lucent Technologies, Inc.***

Year of Trial: 1997

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas

Description: This was a major civil antitrust case in which Bell Atlantic sued AT&T and Lucent for alleged antitrust violations regarding the defendants' manufacturing and sale of telephone network equipment. Bell Atlantic's plan was to get the case to trial as soon as possible, and this strategy turned out to be quite successful for Bell Atlantic. I supervised a substantial discovery plan that was efficiently executed, and the case was prepared to go to trial within one year of the filing of the lawsuit – a result almost unheard of in major commercial antitrust litigation.

Result: During the opening statement and jury selection process, the case settled on terms that were quite satisfactory to Bell Atlantic as the plaintiff that filed the lawsuit.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. General Electric Company, et al.***
Year of Trial: 1994
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio
Description: This was a major antitrust criminal case in which the Justice Department alleged that General Electric Co. and DeBeers, a South African company, had conspired to fix the worldwide prices for industrial diamonds. The Justice Department contended that GE and DeBeers had used a common customer in Europe as a conduit to fix prices. I led the trial team, which consisted of trial lawyers from three law firms, and included one GE in-house litigation attorney. The trial team aggressively challenged the government's evidence at every turn, and we were successful in severely damaging the government's case, which was heavily dependent on circumstantial evidence.
Result: After seven weeks of trial, the judge granted GE's motion for a Rule 29 judgment of acquittal and discharged the jury.

Name of Case: ***Shields Enterprises v. First Chicago Corp.***
Year of Trial: 1994
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
Description: This was a major civil RICO case, with the plaintiff requesting approximately US\$300M in damages. The evidence involved a complex business transaction related to the financing of a cellular telephone business and had numerous complex legal and evidentiary issues that needed to be addressed at trial.
Result: After three weeks of trial, the case settled favorably for our client.

Name of Case: ***Burroughs Wellcome Co. v. Barr Laboratories, Inc.***
Year of Trial: 1993
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina
Description: This was a major patent jury trial involving the patent ownership of AZT, the drug of choice to treat AIDS patients. I represented Barr Laboratories, Inc., which was challenging the AZT patent rights of Burroughs Wellcome.
Result: This case involved very complex patent legal issues. After several weeks of trial, Judge Howard dismissed the jury without a verdict, and several legal issues were appealed to the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals.

Name of Case: ***People of the State of Illinois, ex rel., Roland Burris, Illinois Attorney General v. George H. Ryan, et al.***
Year of Trial: 1992
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: This was a federal political redistricting trial that resulted from the redistricting process that had occurred in 1991 in the State of Illinois. I was defending the redistricting map approved by the Illinois Legislative Redistricting Commission against several legal challenges. During the trial, I examined and cross-examined several election and redistricting experts.

Result: Successfully obtained a judgment in favor of our clients, and the new political map was put into effect by the State of Illinois for the 1992 elections.

Name of Case: ***People of the State of Illinois, ex rel., Roland Burris, Illinois Attorney General v. George H. Ryan, et al.***

Year of Trial: 1992

Jurisdiction: The Illinois Legislative Redistricting Commission; The Illinois Supreme Court

Description: In 1991, the Illinois Legislative Redistricting Commission, carrying out its constitutional authority, remapped the political subdivisions of the State of Illinois. I represented various parties whose interests were aligned with the Illinois Republican Party in defending this new political map against various legal challenges. I acted as chief trial counsel in a trial before the Illinois Legislative Redistricting Commission, in which I examined and cross-examined numerous election and redistricting experts.

Result: The Commission ruled in favor of my clients. The matter went by direct appeal to the Illinois Supreme Court, and I succeeded in winning the case on appeal.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. David Shields***

Year of Trial: 1991

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: The defendant was a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, who was alleged to have taken a bribe in connection with the performance of his judicial duties.

Result: After a three-week jury trial, the jury found the defendant guilty of all charges.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Chan Wing Yeung, et al.***

Year of Trial: 1991

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Represented Chan Wing Yeung, who was, along with 17 other individuals of Chinese ancestry, charged with participating in an alleged large-scale Chinese gambling operation.

Result: After a four-month trial, the jury was split ten to two for acquittal; the case ended in a hung jury.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. John Poindexter***

Year of Trial: 1990

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

Description: Represented the government in the prosecution of John Poindexter, the National Security

Advisor during the presidency of Ronald Reagan, who was charged with obstructing Congress in connection with the Iran/Contra Affair. During the trial, I cross-examined Oliver North and former President Ronald Reagan.

Result: The jury ruled in favor of the government and Poindexter was convicted of all five felony charges. The conviction was reversed on appeal.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom***

Year of Trial: 1989

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Represented Lloyd Bloom, a sports agent, for defrauding various universities by the way he signed college football players to representation agreements before their college eligibility expired.

Result: After a six-week jury trial, my client was found guilty of some charges and not guilty of other charges. On appeal, the conviction was completely reversed in favor of my client.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Angelo Commito***

Year of Trial: 1989

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Defended Angelo Commito, who was charged with fraud in connection with his operation of a large health care business that did substantial work for many of the larger labor unions in the United States. I examined and cross-examined many witnesses during the trial.

Result: At the conclusion of the trial, my client was found not guilty of all charges.

Name of Case: ***Anthony R. Gold, PC Brand, Inc., et al. v. Ziff Communications Co., d/b/a Ziff-Davis Publishing Co.***

Year of Trial: 1988

Jurisdiction: Circuit Court of Cook County

Description: This was a complex contract dispute between an advertiser and a large publishing company involving the leading computer magazine in the United States.

Result: My client, PC Brand, Inc., prevailed at trial, and the matter has now been affirmed on appeal.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Thompson B. Sanders***

Year of Trial: 1988

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Defended Thompson B. Sanders in a criminal commodity fraud jury trial, which involved the expert testimony of several commodity trading experts. I examined and cross-examined numerous witnesses during the trial.

Result: The jury found my client guilty, and he was sentenced to jail.

Name of Case: ***Commonwealth Edison Co. Proposed General Increase in Electric Rates***

Year of Trial: 1988

Jurisdiction: Illinois Commerce Commission

Description: This case involved a several hundred-million-dollar rate increase request by Commonwealth Edison resulting from the addition of three nuclear units to Commonwealth Edison's rate base. It was an extremely complex and vigorously contested administrative proceeding with significant consequences to the financial structure of Commonwealth Edison. I worked with another law firm in preparing this case for trial. I was assigned certain specialized witnesses—primarily utility economists—to examine and cross-examine. The case was extremely complex, involving a 20-year history of nuclear expansion with this utility.

Name of Case: ***Farmland Industries, Inc. v. Frazier-Parrott Commodities, Inc., et al.***

Year of Trial: 1987

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri

Description: My clients, Horace Seixas and John Dunn, were charged with serious acts of fraud in connection with trading large quantities of crude oil in the futures market on the New York Mercantile Exchange. This was a very complicated case involving an alleged US\$50M fraud scheme. I prepared the case for trial, delivered the opening statement and closing argument, and examined and cross-examined approximately 20 witnesses. It was a very complex trial, lasting approximately six weeks.

Result: I successfully defended my clients, and the jury returned a verdict of not guilty on all counts as to each of my clients. As a result, my clients avoided a huge financial exposure that would have resulted from an adverse verdict.

Name of Case: ***MidAmerica Commodity Exchange v. First Commodity Corp. of Boston***

Year of Trial: 1987

Jurisdiction: MidAmerica Commodity Exchange

Description: Chief counsel for the largest and most comprehensive administrative/disciplinary proceeding ever undertaken by the MidAmerica Commodity Exchange. The defendant was charged with defrauding hundreds of customers in connection with commodities trading. I prepared the case for trial and delivered the opening statement and closing argument and examined and cross-examined approximately 50 witnesses.

Result: The trial lasted approximately eight weeks and resulted in the defendant being found guilty of all charges. Ultimately, the defendant was fined US\$3M, the largest fine ever imposed by a commodity exchange in the United States. The case was eventually affirmed by the CFTC.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Lisa Hall Huckaby***
Year of Trial: 1986
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois
Description: As lead trial counsel, I represented Huckaby, a public official with the State of Illinois who was charged with receiving bribe payments to influence official acts. I prepared the case for trial, delivered the opening statement and closing argument, and examined and cross-examined approximately 35 witnesses.
Result: The trial lasted three weeks, and I was successful in preventing the defendant's conviction. The jury ended up deadlocked eight to four in my client's favor. Subsequently, I was able to negotiate a plea agreement regarding a much lesser charge.

Name of Case: ***Ohio-Sealy Mattress Manufacturing Co., et al., and Sealy Mattress Co. of Michigan, Inc. v. Sealy, Inc. and Morris A. Kaplan, et al.***
Year of Trial: 1986
Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
Description: This case was a major antitrust jury trial involving an alleged illegal market distribution system by Sealy, Inc. This was an extremely complex trial involving thousands of documents and presenting complex factual and legal issues. I prepared the case for trial and was chief trial counsel.
Result: After a three-month jury trial, I obtained a US\$45M verdict against the defendant, and subsequently settled the judgment for US\$37M.

Name of Case: ***Automated Transit Systems Group v. MATRA, S.A., and the City of Chicago***
Year of Trial: 1985
Jurisdiction: Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, Chancery Division
Description: Represented MATRA in a case involving a US\$150M contract to design and build an automated transit system at O'Hare International Airport. This was the largest contract ever entered into by the City of Chicago (the City), and the City originally awarded the contract to the Automated Transit Systems Group (ATS Group), which was a competitor of my client, MATRA. I filed a lawsuit to block the awarding of the contract to the ATS Group and was eventually successful in convincing the City that MATRA was the lowest responsible bidder. After the City reversed positions and awarded the contract to MATRA, the ATS Group filed this lawsuit to obtain a preliminary injunction against the City and MATRA. Because of the significance and urgency of this matter to the City, Judge Shields set aside approximately two to three days each week, and the case took approximately 11 weeks to try on this schedule. I prepared the case for trial and was chief counsel at trial. I conducted the cross-examination of approximately ten witnesses called by the plaintiff and delivered both the opening statement and the closing argument.
Result: At the conclusion of the trial, Judge Shields denied the request for a preliminary injunction, and MATRA was awarded this contract by the City of Chicago.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Richard F. LeFevour***

Year of Trial: 1985

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Richard F. LeFevour held various high-ranking positions within the Circuit Court of Cook County and was generally viewed as the second highest ranking judge within the Circuit Court of Cook County. The case was considered the pinnacle of a four-year judicial-corruption undercover project conducted by the U.S. Attorney's Office during the time that I served as U.S. Attorney of the Northern District of Illinois. This case went to trial after I resigned as U.S. Attorney and returned to private practice, however, at the request of the Justice Department, I returned to serve as chief trial counsel for the prosecution because of my prior knowledge of the case. I supervised the investigation that led to the return of this indictment and was chief counsel in the preparation and trial of the matter. I conducted the direct examination of approximately 35 witnesses, including the main trial witness, James LeFevour, who was on the witness stand for approximately seven days. I also cross-examined numerous witnesses called by the defense and delivered a four-hour rebuttal argument.

Result: The trial lasted approximately three months, and the jury convicted Judge LeFevour of all 70 counts of the indictment, including charges of racketeering, bribery, mail fraud, and tax fraud. Judge Norgle imposed a 12-year jail sentence.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. John M. Murphy***

Year of Trial: 1984

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: John M. Murphy was a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, who was charged with various acts of judicial corruption. This case was quite significant because it involved the first judge to go to trial in connection with the government's four-and-a-half-year undercover judicial corruption investigation, commonly known as "Operation Greylord." I supervised this sensitive undercover investigation and prepared this case for trial. I conducted the direct examination of numerous witnesses, including several corrupt attorneys and court personnel who revealed extensive corruption within the Circuit Court of Cook County. I also cross-examined numerous witnesses, including an extensive two-day cross-examination of Judge Murphy.

Result: The trial lasted several weeks, and successfully resulted in the conviction of the defendant on all charges. Judge Kocoras imposed a 10-year jail sentence.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. James Lewis***

Year of Trial: 1983

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: James Lewis was the only person charged with a crime relating to the Tylenol murders in the City of Chicago. After eight people died from ingesting cyanide-laced super-strength Tylenol capsules, James Lewis was accused of sending an extortion letter to the manufacturer of Tylenol, Johnson & Johnson, demanding US\$1M to stop the Tylenol murders. While Lewis was

suspected by various law enforcement agencies of being the Tylenol murderer, the only charge brought against him was this extortion case. I conducted the investigation and the prepared the case for trial. I conducted the direct and cross-examination of numerous witnesses and delivered a two-hour rebuttal argument.

Result: The trial lasted two weeks, and successfully resulted in the conviction of the defendant. Chief Judge McGarr imposed the maximum sentence of ten years of incarceration.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Ambrose, et al.***

Year of Trial: 1982

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Ten Chicago police officers were charged with various counts of bribery and narcotic violations in connection with a pervasive scheme of payoffs to the ten defendants from a substantial number of heroin dealers. The trial lasted three months and was quite controversial because the government's main witnesses were convicted heroin dealers testifying against Chicago police officers. I prepared this case for trial, which consisted of preparing approximately 50 witnesses to testify and organizing thousands of exhibits. During the trial, I conducted the direct examination of approximately 50 witnesses and the cross-examination of approximately 15 witnesses. I prepared and delivered the rebuttal argument for the government, which lasted approximately seven hours.

Result: All ten police officers were convicted and sentenced to various periods of time of incarceration up to 25 years.

Name of Case: ***Rice Foundation, et al. v. Northwestern University, et al.***

Year of Trial: 1980

Jurisdiction: Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, Chancery Division

Description: I was retained by the Attorney General of Illinois to act as chief trial counsel for his office in protecting the assets of a charitable foundation in a trial involving claims that excessive legal fees were charged to the foundation by the Chicago law firm Reuben & Proctor. The trial lasted several weeks and involved complicated proof relating to extensive litigation that resulted from the probate of a US\$70M DuPage County estate.

Result: Judge Siegan awarded the law firm a judgment of US\$1.6M in legal fees based on a contingent fee theory. The award was affirmed on appeal.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Commonwealth Edison, et al.***

Year of Trial: 1980

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

Description: Nicholas Kalivianakis and Commonwealth Edison Company were indicted for allegedly filing false statements with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) relating to security violations at the nuclear station. The trial involved complex federal nuclear security regulations, and the proof consisted of approximately 40 witnesses and several hundred exhibits. I

defended Mr. Kalivianakis based on the evidence that established that the NRC had engaged in confusing and ill-conceived enforcement efforts, and that my client, far more than the NRC, had insured that this nuclear plant was the United States' safest.

Result: Mr. Kalivianakis was acquitted of all charges by the jury. This was the first, and to date the only, case in which a nuclear power station and its officers were indicted.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Robert Craig, et al.***

Year of Trial: 1976

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Six elected legislators of the Illinois General Assembly, along with several executives of major ready-mix construction firms, were indicted for bribery in connection with a pay-off scheme to secure passage of legislation. The trial lasted approximately ten weeks and involved over 70 witnesses and hundreds of documents. I conducted direct examination of approximately 35 government witnesses, including several elected legislators, who testified about the bribery scheme. The direct examination of some of these witnesses was complicated by a serious evidentiary problem arising from the speech and debate clause of the Federal and Illinois Constitutions. Several of the defendant legislators took the witness stand in the defense case, and I was responsible for their cross-examination.

Result: Five of the legislators were convicted and sentenced to jail terms. This trial exposed rampant corruption in the Illinois Legislature and hopefully had a deterrent impact on legislators selling their votes to pass bills. The case involved a significant legal question concerning the scope of the legislative privilege encompassed in the speech and debate clause of the Federal and State Constitutions.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Irwin Weiner, et al.***

Year of Trial: 1975

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Several representatives of the Central and Southwest Areas Teamsters Pension Fund (the Pension Fund), including Allen Dorfman, and several alleged organized crime figures, including Mafia leaders Tony Spilotro and Ronald De Angeles, were indicted for conspiracy and mail fraud in connection with fraudulent loans made by the Pension Fund. The trial lasted three months and involved a complex financial fraud scheme that required testimony from more than 70 witnesses and the introduction into evidence of thousands of documents.

Result: Unfortunately, all defendants were acquitted, likely because of the exceptionally complex nature of the evidence. However, because of the abuses exposed during the trial, substantial reforms in the management of the Pension Fund occurred, including the complete removal of the Board of Trustees that administered the fund.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Clarence E. Braasch, et al.***

Year of Trial: 1973

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Chief co-counsel in what may have been the biggest trial ever held in a United States District Court. Clarence E. Braasch, the fourth highest ranking police officer in the City of Chicago, and 23 other policemen assigned to the 18th Police District, were indicted for conspiracy, extortion, and perjury in connection with an extensive tavern/police payoff scheme. I conducted an exhaustive 12-month grand jury investigation that led to the return of this indictment. All defendants were tried in the same case, and the trial lasted approximately three months, involving the testimony of over 100 witnesses, including 60 tavern owners who were victimized by the extortion scheme.

Result: All but three of the policemen were convicted by the jury and sentenced to various jail terms by Judge Bauer. The lead defendant, Braasch, was sentenced to six years' incarceration for his role in the conspiracy. Within two weeks of the convictions, a new superintendent of the Chicago Police Department (CPD) was appointed by the Mayor of Chicago. Many observers believe this case led to several significant reforms within the CPD, which have played a substantial role in reducing police corruption since the date of the convictions.

Name of Case: ***United States of America v. Edward J. Barrett***

Year of Trial: 1973

Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Description: Edward J. Barrett, former Clerk of Cook County and Treasurer of the State of Illinois, was indicted on various counts of bribery and mail fraud in connection with the purchase of voting machines while he was the elected Clerk of Cook County. The trial lasted several weeks and involved serious charges of political corruption by a prominent public office holder. I was the Chief Co-Counsel.

Result: Barrett was convicted by the jury, which hopefully had a deterrent impact on other elected officials who might consider accepting bribes in the performance of their duties. Barrett was sentenced to jail by Judge Austin.