



# Jill G. Okun

*partner*

Jill is a trial lawyer with extensive experience representing clients in matters related to commercial contracts, product liability, sanction proceedings, RICO, litigation management, toxic tort, class actions and bankruptcy litigation. She has significant experience representing clients in the automotive industry, and has defended and managed the occupant safety product liability litigation throughout the U.S. for a leading global automotive system supplier. She also served as national coordinating counsel for a client in defense of trailer product liability suits. Jill co-chairs the firm's Unmanned and Autonomous Systems practice group (drones and driverless vehicles).

Her diverse experience includes pharmaceutical defense, asbestos multidistrict litigation, criminal defense and grand jury work.

**Jill has successfully handled numerous bench and jury trials and appeals in state and federal courts and participated in many arbitration and alternative dispute resolution proceedings.**

Jill is an accomplished author having recently written on the topics of autonomous vehicles and litigation protective orders.

She served on the Board of Trustees for the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA) and serves on the CMBA's Judicial Selection Committee for which she is the former chair. She is also a former chair and active member of the CMBA's Certified Grievance Committee. Jill is a member of the Judicial Candidate's Rating Coalition (JCRC), and a Master Benchner in the John M. Manos American Inn of Court.

## CONTACT

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Pronouns: she / her / hers

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## EDUCATION

Boston College, J.D., *cum laude*,  
1982

Tufts University, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1979

## SERVICES

### Litigation

- Commercial litigation
- Product liability
- Class actions, mass torts and MDLs
- Professional liability
- Arbitration and mediation
- Health Care litigation
- Catastrophic injuries
- Unmanned and autonomous systems (Drones and driverless vehicles)

### Health Care

- Litigation

### LGBTQ+ Business

## BAR ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- Supreme Court of the United States

## PRESENTATIONS

- “Intervention: The Little Known Enemy of Protective Orders,” Drones, Cyber-Hacking & PEDs, Oh My! Northeast Ohio Association of Corporate Counsel, Nov. 15, 2018
- Emerging Issues in Motor Vehicle Products Liability Conference, American Bar Association, 2012-2014

## PUBLICATIONS

- “Product liability cases: Cannabis products,” *Thomson Reuters Cannabis Law*, April 2, 2020
- “The myth of protective orders,” *Cleveland Metro Bar Journal*, April 2019
- “Mitigating potential liability posed by autonomous vehicle crash optimization systems,” *For the Defense*, Defense Research Institute, November 2018
- “A far from hypothetical risk: Intervention: The little known enemy of protective orders,” *For the Defense*, Defense Research Institute, July 2018
- “How the U.S. plans to regulate self-driving cars,” *Crain's Cleveland*, April 2, 2018

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Judicial Selection Committee, Former Chair; Grievance Committee, Former Chair
- Judicial Candidate’s Rating Coalition (JCRC)
- American Inn of Courts, Judge John M. Manos, Master Bencher
- American Arbitration Association, Commercial Litigation Panelist

## HONORS | AWARDS

- Robert Sill Leadership Award, ORT America, 2021
- *Best Lawyers®*, Commercial Litigation
- YWCA Greater Cleveland, Women of Professional Excellence Award, 2016

## COMMUNITY

- Supreme Court of Ohio, Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring Program, Mentor
- ORT America – Northeast Ohio Region, Board Member, Trustee and Treasurer