



## RAYMOND M. NORRIS

Shareholder

Gallagher & Kennedy  
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### My Practice

PLAINTIFF'S PERSONAL INJURY & WRONGFUL DEATH -  
Dram Shop/Bar, Drug and Medical Device Litigation, Fire and  
Explosions, Fraud and Commercial Torts, Government Liability,  
Insurance and Bad Faith, Legal and Other Professional Liability,  
Medical Malpractice, Motor Vehicle/Motorcycle/Commercial  
Trucking Collisions, Negligence, Nursing Home/Elder Abuse,  
Products Liability, Sexual Misconduct

LITIGATION

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Ray specializes in plaintiffs' catastrophic personal injury, with particular expertise in brain and spinal cord injury, along with medical malpractice, product liability, wrongful death and mediation of disputes. He also conducts trial preparation and jury selection focus groups. Throughout his career, Ray has spoken extensively in the areas of traumatic brain injury and trial advocacy.

Ray is a Certified Specialist by the State Bar of Arizona in Personal Injury/Wrongful Death. For almost ten years, he served on the Governor's Council on Spinal Cord and Brain Injuries, which was the genesis for what has become the Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona. Ray also served on the Board of Directors for Hope Center for Brain Injury, a post-acute rehabilitation treatment center for victims of traumatic brain injury. Prior to joining Gallagher & Kennedy, Ray practiced as a senior trial attorney in the area of personal injury and medical malpractice in Phoenix for over thirty years.

Ray also acts as a neutral third party in settlement conferences assisting parties to a law suit reach a resolution of their disputes. This process is also referred to as a mediation. Ray started this area of practice many years ago when he was appointed as a Judge *pro tem* for the Maricopa County Superior Court. As a Judge *pro tem*, Ray presided over trials, for example, when the regular judge was not available, and conducted numerous settlement conferences for parties who were involved in law suits. Ray found helping lawyers and clients resolve their disputes very rewarding and decided to make this a regular part of his practice.

Ray's strengths as a mediator stems from his understanding of the legal process and the personalities involved in any given case. As a trial attorney, Ray has represented clients in major medical malpractice and personal injury cases, commercial and business disputes, product liability lawsuits, police misconduct claims, and insurance bad faith cases. Although the majority of time he represented plaintiffs, he has also represented defendants as well. Ray has served as an expert witness in legal malpractice cases for both plaintiffs and defendants. He has served as a sitting judge for both jury and bench trials. This broad experience as a trial attorney, expert witness and trial judge has provided Ray with insight and perspective on the workings of our legal system. Ray brings that experience and his enthusiasm to each settlement conference and has been extremely successful in getting cases settled.

Ray is a member of the State Bar of Arizona, the Maricopa County Bar Association, the U.S. District Court, District of Arizona and the U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit. Among his many accomplishments, Ray has been recognized for twelve consecutive years in the list of "The Best Lawyers in America." He is also listed in the *National Trial Lawyers*, Top 100 Lawyers, Arizona, the AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating, *Martindale-Hubbell* and *Southwest Super Lawyers*. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Arizona Trial Lawyers Association and is Past President of the Phoenix Trial Lawyers Association. He has been a volunteer advocate for survivors

and their families living with brain injury.

Prior to joining Gallagher & Kennedy, Ray practiced as a senior trial attorney in the area of personal injury for a law firm in Phoenix.

## EDUCATION

George Washington University  
LL.M., Comparative Law, 1981

Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
LL.B., 1980

University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
B.A., 1977

## BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Arizona, 1982
- U.S. District Court, District of Arizona, 1982
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, 1985

## ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- State Bar of Arizona, Member
- Arizona Trial Lawyers Association, Member
- Maricopa County Bar Association, Member
- Phoenix Trial Lawyers Association, Past President
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Member
- National Brain Injury Association, Member
- Brain Injury Association of Arizona, Member
- Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona, Board of Directors
- Governor's Council on Spinal Cord and Brain Injuries, Member, 1997-2005
- Million Dollar Verdicts Roundtable, Member
- Hope: Center for Head Injury, Past President of Board of Directors
- Parents Re-Establishing Independent Development and Encouragement (P.R.I.D.E.), Past President of Board of Directors

## HONORS & AWARDS

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs, 2001-2019
- *Southwest Super Lawyers*®, Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiff, 2007-2020
- National Trial Lawyers, Top 100 Lawyers, Arizona
- AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating, *Martindale-Hubbell*
- "One of Phoenix's Best Lawyers", Phoenix Magazine

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Legal Issues in Traumatic Brain Injury (Synergos Neurological Institute and Hope: Center for Head Injury Seminar, Phoenix, Arizona)
- Pathways to Independence: Trusts, Conservatorships and Government Benefits (Arizona Head Injury Foundation, Phoenix, Arizona)
- Recognition and Preparation of the Mild Head Injury Case (Arizona Trial Lawyers Association, Phoenix, Arizona)
- Mild Head Injury – Screening the Mild Head Injury Case (National Head Injury Foundation, San Diego, California)
- Legal Issues Pertaining to the Catastrophic Head Injured (Scottsdale Head Injury Support Group, Phoenix, Arizona)
- Teamwork in the Law Office: Paralegal Management of the Routine Injury Case (Arizona Trial Lawyers Association, Phoenix, Arizona)
- Presenting Plaintiffs Case at Settlement Conferences (Arizona Trial Lawyers Association, Phoenix, Arizona)
- Direct and Cross Examination of a Neuropsychologist (Arizona Head Injury Foundation, Tucson, Arizona)
- Punitive Damages: A Status Report (Arizona State Bar, Phoenix, Arizona)

- Cross Examination of the Defense Neurologist/Neuropsychologist (Arizona Trial Lawyers Association, Phoenix, Arizona)
- Soft Tissue Injuries Update (Arizona Trial Lawyers Association, Phoenix, Arizona)
- Overcoming Juror Bias in Voir Dire (Arizona Trial Lawyers Association, Phoenix, Arizona)
- The Art of Cross Examination (Advanced Trial Advocacy Conference, Prescott, Arizona)
- Voir Dire in the 21st Century (Arizona Association for Justice, Phoenix, Arizona)

## REPRESENTATIVE CASES

### Police Misconduct

- Choke hold administered during investigatory stop resulting in death, \$45,000,000 verdict after trial.

### Accidents

- Railroad crossing crash resulting in spinal cord injury, \$16,400,000 verdict after trial.
- Motorcycle crash resulting in quadriplegia, \$12,500,000 settlement.
- School bus-motor vehicle crash resulting in death of seventeen year old high school student, \$1,000,000 verdict after trial.
- Semi-tractor trailer truck crash with automobile resulting in orthopedic injuries, \$900,000 settlement.
- Motor vehicle crash resulting in Mild Traumatic Brain Injury, \$10,000 offered before trial, case settled for \$300,000 during the trial.
- Motor vehicle crash resulting in Mild Traumatic Brain Injury, \$750,000 verdict after trial.

### Road Design

- Negligent design of construction zone and detour, motorcyclist suffered traumatic brain injury, \$1,600,000 settlement.

### Product Liability

- Defective tire and handling of small pickup truck resulting in spinal cord Injury—\$2,250,000 combined settlement during trial.
- Defective tire, \$3,500,000 settlement.
- Defective tire, \$900,000 settlement.
- Defective door latch on Phoenix Fire Truck resulting in ejection during intersection collision, \$1,000,000 settlement.
- Dress caught fire after teenage girl accidentally dropped cigarette ash on it, \$500,000 settlement.

### Medical Malpractice

- Maternal death from post partum hemorrhage after Cesarian delivery, \$3,250,000 settlement.
- Failure to diagnose pulmonary embolism resulting in death, \$2,200,000 combined settlement by one defendant doctor during trial and verdict against the other doctor after trial.
- VA Emergency Department failure to diagnose pulmonary embolism resulting in death, \$1,500,000 settlement.
- Failure to provide adequate medical care to paralyzed inmate at state prison, \$3,000,000 settlement.
- Negligent wound care in Emergency Department resulting in hand injury, \$300,000 settlement.

### Workplace Injury

- Toxic Exposure at the workplace resulting in lung injury, \$700,000 settlement.

## OTHER

### Certifications

Certified Specialist, Personal Injury/Wrongful Death, State Bar of Arizona, Board of Legal Specialization