

## LORETTA M. AMES



**Partner**

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Loretta M. Ames is a partner in the firm's Detroit office who focuses her practice in the areas of complex litigation, asbestos litigation, toxic tort litigation, product liability, premises liability and motor vehicle negligence.

Ms. Ames has handled a large volume of asbestos cases in the past 15 years, representing various suppliers and manufacturers of asbestos-containing products, as well as general contractors. She has also defended a number of toxic exposure cases, primarily involving solvents and cleaning materials, which allegedly caused neurological and CNS disorders.

Additionally, Ms. Ames specializes in complex litigation. She has handled cases with significant financial exposure, as well as mass torts. She has defended manufacturers and distributors of automobiles, trucks, construction equipment, power tools, machinery, presses and consumer products.

### Representative Client Work

- Successfully defended manufacturers of excavators, forklifts, railroad locomotives, automobiles and presses in design defect and breach of warranty cases
- Represented the successor to a manufacturer of asbestos-containing thermal insulation products in 21 counties around state following a ruling by the Michigan Supreme Court that the state had personal jurisdiction over the defendant
- Successfully defended a national retailer in all manner of litigation, including claims related to premises liability, product liability, flammable fabrics, negligent hiring and ethnic discrimination

### Areas of Practice

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Environmental Law
- Foodservice & Hospitality Industry Group
- Litigation
- Product Liability
- Retail Liability

### Honors & Awards

- Martindale-Hubbell's highest rating-AV Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated. AV is a registered certification mark of Reed Elsevier Properties, Inc., used in accordance with the Martindale-Hubbell certification procedures, standards and policies
- Michigan Super Lawyer in Personal Injury Defense: General, Michigan Super Lawyers, a Thomson Reuters publication, 2007 - 2011

### Education

- Detroit College of Law, J.D., 1979
- Michigan State University, Honors College, B.A., 1975

### Bar & Court Admissions

- Michigan, 1979
- U. S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan, 1979
- United States Supreme Court, 1985

- Successfully defended a municipal transportation system against a claim of discrimination under the Michigan Persons With Disabilities Act.

## Professional Memberships

- Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association
- State Bar of Michigan (Negligence Law Section)
- Michigan Defense Trial Counsel
- American Board of Trial Advocates (Director, Michigan Chapter)
- Association of Defense Trial Counsel (President, 2006-2007)
- American Bar Association (Negligence Law and Litigation sections)
- Defense Research Institute

## Community Involvement

- Risk and Insurance Management Society (RIMS)
- Executive Women's Golf Association

## Publications and Lectures

- "Sick Building Seminar – Mold and Other Issues," MSU Management Center, Oct. 18, 2001
- "Eliminating Liability for Bar and Restaurant Owners," Detroit, Michigan, July, 11, 2000
- "Winning the War Against Junk Science: An Analysis of Post-Daubert Decisions in One Group of Chemical Exposure Cases," Risk and Insurance Management Society Annual Meeting, San Diego, California, April 28, 1998
- "Tales of Tort Reform," Troy, Michigan, March 15, 1996

## News

- Plunkett Cooney attorneys among Michigan 'Super Lawyers' 2011
- Plunkett Cooney attorneys among Michigan 'Super Lawyers' 2010
- Plunkett Cooney attorneys among Michigan 'Super Lawyers' 2009
- Plunkett Cooney attorneys among Michigan 'Super Lawyers' 2008
- Plunkett Cooney Attorneys Named 2007 Michigan 'Super Lawyers'