



# William Hawal Admitted to American College of Trial Lawyers

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William Hawal, a partner in the firm of Spangenberg Shibley & Liber LLP, has been inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, one of the premier legal associations in America. The induction ceremony took place on October 26, 2013, during the Annual Meeting of the College in San Francisco.

Founded in 1950, the College is composed of the best of the trial bar from the United States and Canada. Fellowship in the College is extended by invitation only and only after careful investigation of those experienced trial lawyers who have mastered the art of advocacy and whose professional careers have been marked by the highest standards of ethical conduct, professionalism, civility and collegiality. The College strives to improve and elevate the standards of trial practice, the administration of justice, and the ethics of the trial profession. The criteria and selection process are stringent: membership in the College cannot exceed one percent of the total lawyer population of any state or province, and lawyers must have a minimum of fifteen years trial experience before they can be considered for fellowship.

Hawal's admission into the American College of Trial Lawyers follows many other impressive achievements. He has been consistently voted among The Best Lawyers in America<sup>®</sup> in the Medical Malpractice Law practice area and he has been selected as one of the Top 100 Trial Lawyers in Ohio by The American Trial Lawyers Association, which bases selection on superior qualifications, leadership, reputation, influence, stature, and profile in the Trial Lawyer community. Super Lawyers<sup>®</sup> magazine has recognized Hawal as being among the top 5% of attorneys in Ohio specializing in the Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice practice areas. In addition, Hawal has been named a founding member of the Summit Counsel - a group of today's top civil justice lawyers in the United States - and has been granted a Fellowship in the International Society of Barristers.

Hawal is involved in litigating a wide variety of complex matters involving medical misdiagnoses, medical procedures, defective medical devices and drugs, legal malpractice and industrial and consumer products. He has litigated numerous cases across the country involving defective pharmaceuticals and medical devices and had a central role in the gadolinium-based contrast litigation, serving as Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel in the Federal Multidistrict Litigation and as a member of the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee for all of the federal court litigation. He also has extensive experience in product liability litigation, having successfully tried and settled cases involving defective helicopter components, automobiles, farm equipment, industrial machines, and consumer products. He is also experienced in representing individuals in high-profile civil rights lawsuits.

Deeply committed to serving the legal community, Hawal was a past President of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) Ohio Chapter and The Cleveland Academy of Trial Lawyers, was a member of the Executive Board of the Ohio Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, was appointed a life member of the Eighth District Judicial Conference, and received a distinguished service award from The Ohio Association for Justice.