



Neil D. Kodsi

Mr. Kodsi is a seasoned trial lawyer with over twenty-five (25) years of jury trial experience. Mr. Kodsi has tried numerous cases to verdict in both federal and state court. Additionally, he has successfully tried cases involving many different theories of liability, including patent infringement, employment discrimination, product liability, toxic tort, wrongful death, personal injury, breach of contract, bad faith, and first-party insurance claims.

Prior to forming his own firm, The Law Offices of Neil D. Kodsi, Mr. Kodsi worked for large national and/or regional law firms, where he was one of the “go-to” trial lawyers for those firms for complex cases involving highly complicated expert testimony. Simply put, Mr. Kodsi is -- first and foremost -- a trial lawyer.

Representative Matters

Mr. Kodsi’s skills as a trial lawyer have been recognized nationally and locally. He has received public recognition for his skills as a trial advocate in a wide array of cases, ranging from representation of Fortune 100 corporations in high-profile complex wrongful death cases to serving as pro-bono trial counsel representing thousands of Florida Citizens seeking Medicare coverage.

- In 2002, Mr. Kodsi was the lead trial lawyer for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in Janoff v. Philip Morris, et. al. in which his successful defense of R.J. Reynolds in a secondhand tobacco smoke lawsuit was recognized by the *National Law Journal* as one of the top ten defense verdicts of 2002.
- In 2006, Mr. Kodsi served as pro-bono litigation counsel for a class of over 6,000 Florida Medicaid recipients and was able to successfully defeat a Florida State policy denying prescription

medication coverage for particular medications for this class. This victory was acknowledged by the Miami *Daily Business Review* in 2007, awarding Mr. Kodsí and his co-counsel with the Most Effective Lawyer Award in their class action category for that year.

- In March 2012, Neil served as pro bono litigation counsel for a group of autistic children seeking to defeat another Florida State Policy -- one that was denying coverage for behavioral therapy for the more than 8,500 autistic children in Florida covered by Medicaid. After a four-day trial in front of U.S. District Court Judge Joan Lenard, Mr. Kodsí and his co-counsel obtained an Order requiring the State of Florida to provide this treatment for all autistic children in Florida covered by Medicaid. In her Order, Judge Lenard referred to this case as one of the most important cases she has heard in her sixteen years on the bench. This case also has received substantial national media attention.

In addition to those cases referenced above, a sample of the types of cases that Mr. Kodsí has tried involving other theories of liability include the following:

- Circuitronix, LLC v. Kapoor, Federal District Court, Miami, May 2017 (Successfully defended former Chief Executive Officer of Multi-million dollar corporation in lawsuit alleging breach of non-solicitation and non-compete agreements)
- L.M.P. v. The School Board of Broward County, Federal District Court, West Palm Beach, January 2016 (Lawsuit brought on behalf of autistic children in Broward County Schools to secure appropriate educational programs pursuant to the Federal Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act)
- Hurricane Shooters, LLC v. EMI Yoshi, Inc., Federal District Court, Tampa, November 2011 (Patent Infringement lawsuit seeking over \$1.2 million in damages)
- Bray and Gillespie v. Lexington Insurance Company, Federal District Court, Ft. Meyers, March 2010 (First party insurance claim brought by Daytona Beach developers seeking over \$200 million for damages to seven hotels allegedly caused by Hurricane Jeanne.)
- Menchini v. R.J. Reynolds, Circuit Court, Miami, November 2007 (Wrongful Death case brought by mother of a 50-year old flight attendant seeking damages from the tobacco industry for her daughter allegedly developing lung cancer as a result of her exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke in the airline cabin.)
- Anderson v. Attwood Marine, Circuit Court, West Palm Beach October 2007 (Complex product liability case involving claims in excess of \$2.5 million based on a recreational boating accident.)

Representative Clients

Mr. Kodsi has represented Fortune 100 Companies, Small Business and Individuals. The following is just a small sample of some the clients that Neil has represented over the last twenty five (25) years:

- CNOW Telehealth Solutions
- Vital Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- Blackstone Labs, LLC
- R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company
- Steelcase
- Attwood Marine
- Lexington Insurance Company
- AIG
- State Farm Insurance Company
- EMI Yoshi, Inc.
- Live Nation Entertainment
- Fassmer Service America, LLC
- ACR Electronics
- Philip Morris
- Barton G. Design Limited, Inc.
- Ford Motor Company
- Sara Lee Corporation
- Hanes
- Sensormatic Electronics, LLC
- ADT
- Snowmasters Special Effects
- Global Special Effects
- WCI Communities, Inc.
- Labor Finders

Professional Recognition

- AV Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- Rated "Superb" by Avvo.com
- Recipient of The Florida Bar Foundation's *Paul Doyle Children Advocacy Award*, 2013
- Recipient of The Most Effective Lawyer Award in the Class Action category by the *Daily Business Review* 2007
- Recipient of the 2006 William Reece Smith, Jr. Pro Bono Award
- Certified by the Florida Supreme Court as a Circuit Court Mediator in 2011
- "Top Ten Defense Verdict of 2002," National Law Journal

Speaking Engagements

- "Legal Issues for Families Dealing with Autism." University of Miami Center for Autism Related Disabilities / Autism-U (March 21, 2013)
- "Winning the Battle of Experts: How the use of expert testimony saved the day for autistic children." Broward County Hispanic Bar Association (December 13, 2012)
- KEYNOTE SPEAKER at the Annual Conference of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis, "How Science and Medicine in the Courtroom Defeated AHCA's Policy Denying Coverage For ABA." (September 26, 2012)
- "Nanotechnology: Is it the Next Chinese Drywall or the Next Y2K?" at The Florida Defense Lawyer's Association, Florida Liability Claims Conference (June 10, 2010)

- “How Lawyers Prepare Experts and Experts Prepare Lawyers,” The Dade County Defense Bar Association (April 18, 2007)

Mr. Kodsi has frequently served as a faculty member for litigation skills programs sponsored by the American Bar Association and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, including, most recently, the following:

- Faculty member for the Florida Regional Trial Program sponsored by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) at Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad School of Law (March 8-11, 2017)
- Faculty member for the Florida Regional Trial Program sponsored by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) at Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad School of Law (March 12-13, 2016)
- Faculty member for the Florida Regional Trial Program sponsored by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) at Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad School of Law (March 4-7, 2013)
- Faculty member for the Florida Regional Trial Program sponsored by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) at Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad School of Law (March 3-6, 2012)
- Faculty member for the Florida Regional Trial Program sponsored by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) at Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad School of Law (March 9-12, 2011)
- Faculty member for the NITA three-day Trial Practice Seminar at Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad School of Law (March 2-3, 2009)
- Faculty member for the NITA three-day seminar entitled “Deposition Skills: Florida” at Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad School of Law (October 16-18, 2008)
- Faculty member for the American Bar Association’s Trial Advocacy Program for Legal Services Attorneys at the University of Miami School of Law (May 27th – June 2nd, 2008)
- Faculty member for the NITA Trial Practice Seminar at Stetson University School of Law (January 30, 2006)

Publications

- “Confronting Experts Whose Opinions Are Neither Supported nor Directly Contradicted by Scientific Literature,” Trial Lawyers Forum, *The Florida Bar Journal* (June 2006)

Bar Admissions

- Florida
- Georgia
- North Carolina

Court Admissions

- Florida State Courts
- Georgia State Courts
- North Carolina State Courts
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of North Carolina

Professional and Civic Activities

- Florida Bar
- State Bar of Georgia
- North Carolina State Bar
- American Bar Association
- National Institute for Trial Advocacy
- Rotary Club of Miami Shores (President, 2013- 2014)
- Rotary District 6990 (Assistant Governor, 2015 – 2016)
- Miami Shores Fine Arts Commission (2015 -)
- Miami Shores Mayor's Task Force Member (2011 - 2012)
- Adjunct Professor, Wake Forest University School of Law, Fall 2004
- Guest Lecturer on Trial Skills, Wake Forest University School of Law (2001-2004)
- Trial Team Coach, R.J. Reynolds High School Mock Trial Team (2001-2003)
- Softball Coach, Doctors Charter School of Miami Shores (2016 -)

Prior Law Firms

- Carlton Fields (Shareholder, 2005 -2010)
- Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC (Shareholder, 2000-2004 - Associate 1996 - 2000)
- Constangy, Brooks & Smith (Associate, 1991-1995)

Education

- Wake Forest University School of Law (J.D., 1991)
 - Order of the Barristers
 - National Trial Team
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (B.A., 1988)

Contact Information

Neil D. Kodsi
The Law Offices of Neil D. Kodsi
Plantation Corporate Center
Two South University Drive, Suite 304
Plantation, FL 33324
ndk@ndkodsilaw.com
(786) 464-0841 (Direct)
(954) 790-6722 (Fax)
www.ndkodsilaw.com