

CIVIL TRIAL LAWYER

Rod L. Johnson, J.D.

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SUMMARY

Civil trial attorney protecting the rights of individuals and businesses through aggressive advocacy; resolving business disputes; winning civil lawsuits; enforcing judgments; and, collecting debts. Vigorously advocate for and defend juvenile defendants, immigrants in removal proceedings, and businesses in civil cases.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 🏛️ Oversee jury trials as first chair. Handle cases from inception to disposition including cases involving complex litigation issues
- 🏛️ Won three cases on appeal
- 🏛️ Secured over a million dollars in damage awards for corporations and small businesses
- 🏛️ Serve as corporate counsel for Michigan corporations handling matters ranging from formation; HR consulting; debt collection; complex litigation; and, asset protection
- 🏛️ Negotiated settlements in state and federal courts and state regulatory agencies
- 🏛️ Served as a Deputy Director at the Michigan Supreme Court
- 🏛️ Over two decades of accumulated management experience monitoring expenditures and leading finance and administrative teams and optimizing operational efficiencies

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Law Offices of RL Johnson, PLLC ~ Livonia, MI
Managing Attorney

2008 – Present

- 🏛️ Oversee jury trials in cases ranging from third-degree felonies including, robbery, sexual battery, home invasion, burglary, and aggravated assault less than murder.
- 🏛️ Conduct depositions, attend arraignments, draft pleadings, negotiate pleas, review warrants and affidavits to determine probable cause, and argue motions for pretrial release/bond.
- 🏛️ Research legal issues draft and argue complex motions to suppress, dismiss, and vacate. Respond to and make discovery demands.

Central Care Management Organization ~ Detroit, MI
CEO

2005 – 2006

Led Wayne County's largest juvenile justice, care management corporation serving over 700 juvenile offenders. Managed Department of Justice programs for serious and violent juvenile offenders; leveraged existing contacts to enhanced corporate image; reengineered and renegotiated over \$27,000,000 in outsourced contracts; and, transformed corporate image and reestablished profitability by converted a \$127,113 deficit into a \$383,689 windfall in less than a year using cost-effective business and cost reduction tracking strategies.

School Community Health Alliance of Michigan ~ Okemos, MI
Lobbyist

2004 – 2005





Oversaw all substantive legal functions on behalf of the corporation, including business formation; contract drafting, negotiation, and administration; federal tax filings; state lobbying compliance; and, service and employment agreements.

Michigan Supreme Court ~ Lansing, MI
Deputy Director, Child Welfare Services Division

1997 – 2004

Provided technical support to regional trial courts and external stakeholder agencies. Effectively acted as a liaison between the State Supreme Court; the Legislature; federal, state, and local governments; and, taxpayers. Managed over 150 mission staff and volunteers; conducted legal research; provided legislative policy analysis; and, contributed to the production of various authoritative legal publications and procedural manuals currently in use by attorneys, judges, and businesses. Negotiated, reviewed, drafted, and administered statewide contracts in accordance with Supreme Court guidelines, legal requirements, and customer specifications.

PUBLICATIONS

-  Authored: *The Michigan Foster Care Review Board's Study On Court-Appointed Attorney Compensation*, Michigan State Court Administrative Office, 2000.
-  Co-Developed: *Guidelines For Achieving Permanency In Child Protective Proceedings*, Children's Charter of The Courts of Michigan, 2001-2003.
-  Technical Consultant: *The Lawyer Guardian Ad Litem Protocol*, Michigan Judicial Institute, 2003.
-  Authored more than a dozen legal and public policy analyses for the Michigan Supreme Court.

EDUCATION



WMU Cooley Law School
Juris Doctorate

**University of
Toledo**
Master's Program









**Wayne State
University**
Bachelor of Science

**University of
Maryland**
Asian Studies

MILITARY SERVICE

-  United States Marine Corps: Active Duty (1981 - 1987), Reserves (1987 - 1989).
-  Assignments: Marine Drill Instructor; Primary Marksmanship Instructor; Platoon Leader, Marine Security Officer. Military honors include numerous citations of merit, medals, and three Honorable Discharges.

AFFILIATIONS

-  Member, State Bar of Michigan
-  Member, State Bar of Michigan, Standing Committee on Professional Ethics
-  Chair, State Bar of Michigan, Subcommittee, Conflicts in Child Protection Proceedings
-  Member, Christian Legal Society
-  Admitted to practice, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan
-  Admitted to practice, U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan
-  Holder, Dan Grade registered in the Kukkiwon
-  Graduate, Midwest Academy