



Bobby DiCello

Partner

Cleveland

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Mentor, Ohio 44060

Overview

Bobby DiCello's practice encompasses locally and nationally significant cases across a broad range of topics, with a focus on restoring the human dignity stolen by civil rights abuses, catastrophic injuries, defective products, and corporate misconduct.

Bobby is a force in the trial bar. He has obtained record verdicts in cases thought unwinnable, while, at the same time, leading cutting-edge research into juror decision-making in the politically polarized jury system. Bobby has successfully tried, as a first-chair trial lawyer, catastrophic injury and death cases, civil rights cases, medical malpractice cases, mass tort bellwether cases, *qui tam* cases, and financial services cases, as well as major felony prosecutions, major criminal defense actions, and a variety of other cases that have branded him as one of the nation's best modern-day trial lawyers.

Notably, ABC News tapped Bobby to analyze and comment on the most anticipated civil rights trial in recent history: the trial of Officer Derek Chauvin for George Floyd's murder in its series, *The Death of George Floyd—Derek Chauvin on Trial*. Recognizing the need for an authority on high-profile trials to provide opinions on the case to a national and international audience, ABC selected Bobby due to his immense expertise in the art of trial and his reputation as a fierce and skillful trial lawyer. Between focus group preparation for a major pharmaceutical trial and research into the psychology of modern jurors, Bobby made himself available for weeks of real-time commentary and insight into the trial process.

In 2021, Public Justice awarded Bobby its prestigious Trial Lawyer of the Year award for his work in the landmark *Black v. Hicks* police brutality and corruption case in the City of East Cleveland, Ohio. Public Justice presents this annual award to attorneys who promote the public interest by trying a precedent setting, socially-significant case. Bobby tried the Black case to a jury that awarded Mr. Black a record \$50 million—a verdict that has since been sustained up to

the U.S. Supreme Court. *The National Law Journal* has also recognized Bobby, twice, as an “agent of change” in its annual list of Plaintiffs’ Lawyers Trailblazers, a rare honor.

Having taught trial lawyers across the country, Bobby is also known for his dedication to improving the art of trial practice. Bobby is routinely asked to assist lawyers from across the United States on cases. He consults on all aspects of trial preparation and motion practice, including theme building, case framing, case messaging, and the creation of visuals for courtroom presentation and exhibits. He develops his approach through DiCello Levitt’s Trial Center, where he leads focus groups, mock trials, and jury decision-making research. Bobby’s work sets DiCello Levitt apart as a truly rare law firm: a plaintiffs’ firm with an in-house focus group and mock trial practice that creates powerful presentations and—most importantly for our clients—meaningful verdicts.

Learn more about Bobby and his work at BobbyDiCello.com.

Practice Areas

ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION LITIGATION

CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS LITIGATION

CLASS ACTION LITIGATION

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LITIGATION

PERSONAL INJURY

PHARMACEUTICAL FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE

PRODUCT LIABILITY

PUBLIC CLIENT

SECURITIES AND FINANCIAL SERVICES LITIGATION

PRIVACY, TECHNOLOGY, AND CYBERSECURITY

WHISTLEBLOWER, QUI TAM, AND FALSE CLAIMS ACT

Education

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, J.D.

Northwestern University, M.A.

University of Dayton, B.A.

Representative Matters

Represented a black man subject to a brutal assault by East Cleveland police and confined to a closet in the police station for days. At trial, secured a jury verdict of \$22 million.

Represented plaintiffs in class action litigation over sudden and unintended acceleration in Ford automobiles.

Drafted amicus brief to Ohio Supreme Court on behalf of the Ohio Association for Justice, arguing for the availability of legal remedies for minor victims of sexual abuse.

Awards & Honors

500 Leading Plaintiff Consumer Lawyers, **Lawdragon** (2023-2024)

500 Leading Civil Rights & Plaintiff Employment Lawyers, **Lawdragon** (2023)

Trial Lawyer of the Year, **Public Justice** (2021)

Plaintiffs' Lawyers Trailblazer, **The National Law Journal** (2020 and 2017)

Ohio Super Lawyers (listed annually since 2017)

*Editor-in-Chief of **The Cleveland State Law Review***

Publications & Presentations

Season 3, Episode 06, *Serial Podcast*

"How to Find Your Client's Story," 360 Advocacy, Power Story Conference (2017)

"Essential Aspects of the Story-in-Trial Approach," 360 Advocacy, Power Story Conference (2017)

"Story-in-Trial: It's Not What You Might Expect," 360 Advocacy, Power Story Conference (2017)

"Why Story-in-Trial Works With and Empowers Who You Are and What You're Doing Right Now," 360 Advocacy, Power Story Conference (2017)

Admissions & Memberships

Bar Admissions

Ohio

Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio

U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania

Memberships

Law360 2024 Editorial Advisory Board Member

National Police Accountability Project

Ohio Association for Justice

American Association for Justice

Trial Lawyers' College (2013)