



Robert E. Tait

Partner | Columbus Office

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Mr. Tait is a partner in the Vorys Columbus office and a member of the litigation practice. He has completed well over 100 jury trials in multiple jurisdictions, serving as lead counsel in cases involving products liability, discrimination, environmental law, employer intentional tort, and general business disputes. For more than three decades, Mr. Tait has represented Department of Energy contractor operated nuclear facilities, including defending various toxic tort class actions for those contractors in Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee. He has briefed and argued numerous cases before the Supreme Court of Ohio, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, and has appeared before the United States Supreme Court.

Career highlights include:

- Obtaining a defense verdict in \$62 million products liability case, the longest civil trial in Hamilton County (Cincinnati) Ohio history
- Arguing before the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of *Miller v. Goodyear Atomic Corp.*, 48 U.S. 174 (1988)
- Serving as lead counsel and successfully defending \$10 billion class action in federal court in Kentucky
- Trying cases in multiple jurisdictions, including 53 counties in Ohio

Mr. Tait is a member of the Ohio State Bar Association, the Columbus Bar Association, the American Board of Trial Advocates, the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys, the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel, the Defense Research Institute, the National Foundation for Judicial Excellence, and the Department of Energy Contractor Counsel Association.

Mr. Tait is a frequent speaker on workers' compensation, trial practice and professionalism.

Mr. Tait received his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Michigan Law School and his B.A. *cum laude* from Kenyon College.

Practice Areas

Environmental
Labor and Employment
Litigation

Industries

Building, Construction, and
Design Services
Energy and Utilities
Manufacturing
Restaurants, Food, and Beverage

Education

University of Michigan Law
School, J.D., 1973, *cum laude*
Kenyon College, B.A., 1968, *cum
laude*

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Publications

"The Statute of Repose - A 'Two-Edged Sword?'," *Declarations* (Excess/Surplus Lines Claims Administration Publication), Summer 2008

"Is It Compensable - An Explanation of the Ohio Worker's Compensation System" (Ohio Manufacturers Association Publication)

"Scope of Employment after Pillsbury" (Ohio Retail Merchants Publication)

Client Alert: Vorys Helps Sterling Chemicals, Inc. Win Important Victory in Rail Injury Case

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"The Statute of Repose - A 'Two-Edged Sword?'"

Professional and Community Activities

Defense Research Institute, Board of Directors, 2008-2011

Association of Defense Trial Attorneys: President, 2009-2010; President-Elect 2009; Vice-President, 2008; Treasurer, 2002-2007; Executive Council, 1991-1994, 2010-2011

American Civil Trial Bar Roundtable, 2008-2010

Columbus Country Club, Board of Trustees, 2007-present

North Hanna Foundation, Trustee, 1996-2005

Honors and Awards

The Best Lawyers in America, Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions - Defendants, 2012

Ohio Super Lawyers, Civil Litigation Defense, 2004-2012

Columbus CEO, Top Lawyers in Columbus, 2010-2012

Fellow of the Ohio State Bar Foundation, 2006-Present

Fellow of the Columbus Bar Foundation, 1990-Present

Events

Association of Defense Trial Attorneys' 70th Annual Meeting

Robert E. Tait (Continued)

Bar and Court Admissions

Ohio

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit