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Adler Murphy & McQuillen LLP
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Education

IIT Chicago-Kent College
of Law, J.D., 1996

University of Iowa, B. A.,
History, 1993

Bar Admissions

Illinois

Court Admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals for
the Ninth Circuit

U.S. District Court for the
Northern District of Illinois

U.S. District Court for the
Central District of Illinois

U.S. District Court for the
Northern District of
Indiana

U.S. District Court for the
District of Colorado

Todd M. Saranecki | Partner

Todd Saranecki is a partner with Adler Murphy & McQuillen LLP. He has significant experience in the areas of aviation litigation, insurance and reinsurance coverage litigation, and litigation of commercial disputes, and he has litigated claims throughout the United States involving personal injury, wrongful death, products liability, general tort matters, property damage, cargo losses, commercial disputes, insurance coverage, and subrogation.

As part of his aviation practice, Todd has successfully defended aircraft owners, pilots, fixed base operators, maintenance facilities, and product manufacturers in numerous lawsuits arising from general aviation accidents. He also represents domestic and foreign air carriers, as well as product manufacturers, in connection with major accidents.

As part of his insurance practice, Todd has won favorable resolutions for insurers in coverage actions (including related bad faith actions) stemming from aviation, accidental death and disability, and product liability policies. Notable successes include obtaining a favorable settlement for a major domestic insurer during trial in a dispute evolving from an HMO-managed care plan, and successfully defeating plaintiffs' bad faith claims via motion practice in consolidated multi-million dollar coverage disputes in New York federal court, which prompted a favorable settlement for his client on the eve of trial. Todd has also successfully defended domestic insurers in both state and federal courts throughout the United States against numerous coverage actions arising from accidental death and disability policies, many of which involved employer sponsored plans that implicated ERISA preemption.

As part of his commercial litigation practice, Todd prosecutes and defends business torts and sophisticated contractual disputes. These disputes include the defense of an international corporation and one of its employees in a lawsuit brought by the employee's former employer alleging theft of trade secrets and breach of the employee's non-compete contract. Following a multi-day evidentiary hearing on the merits, Todd successfully thwarted the plaintiff's efforts to obtain an injunction against the corporation and its employee and dissolved the temporary restraining order that had previously been entered against them.

Todd is an active member of the Chicago Bar Association's Aviation, Insurance Coverage and Insurance Law committees and served as a chairperson for its aviation Law Committee from 2015-2017. He is also a member of the Defense Research Institute's Aviation, ERISA and Insurance Committees.

When not practicing law, Todd has served on the Board of Directors for the McCormick Tribune YMCA in Logan Square since 2004. He is also the 2012 President of the Trade Masters Club for Toastmasters International.



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Speeches and Publications

- Moderator and co-author “*Perspective From General Counsel’s Office*,” presented to American Bar Association, Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section, Washington, D.C., November 3, 2016
- *Recent Developments in Illinois Law* – Presented May 2014.
- *Developments in Pre-Lawsuit Duty to Preserve Evidence* – Presented May 2013.
- *Mastering the “Five P’s” of Successful Settlement Negotiations* – Presented January 2012.
- *Write Good, Pay Less: Policy Wording Matters!* – Presented January 2011.
- Todd M. Saranecki and Susan Russell, *Will the Illinois Supreme Court Tame the Beast?*, Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, May 24, 2012.
- Todd M. Saranecki and Susan Russell, *Court Tries To Rein In Interpretation Of Voluntary Undertaking Exception*, Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, November 1, 2012.
- Professor Dale A. Nance, *Verbal Completeness and Exclusionary Rules Under the Federal Rules of Evidence*, 75 Tex. L. Rev. 51 (1996) (Research Assistant).