



DeAngelo A. LaVette

Associate

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DeAngelo LaVette focuses his practice on defending pharmaceutical manufacturers, medical device manufacturers, large hospital systems, and health care providers in matters involving health and life sciences, mass tort, and product liability.

In the day-to-day management of cases, DeAngelo oversees jury research and voir dire and manages discovery, government inquiries, and subpoena requests. He also develops and prepares both offensive and defensive strategies, pre- and post-trial motions, and appellate briefs. DeAngelo has significant experience preparing witnesses for trial – including direct- and cross-examinations of both lay and expert witnesses. DeAngelo works closely with experts, including vetting, managing discovery, and taking and defending depositions. He also participates and assists in evaluating financial risk in mediation and settlement conferences. He has served as second chair in a jury trial, which resulted in a complete defense verdict.

Before joining Tucker Ellis, DeAngelo was associate general counsel of a health care management company where he managed cases at both the trial and appellate levels in state and federal courts in Ohio and Kentucky. As part of his general responsibilities overseeing the legal affairs for dozens of health care facilities, DeAngelo led and assisted in written discovery and depositions, as well as resolution and exit strategies. He also oversaw regulatory and compliance matters and outside counsel billing.

DeAngelo previously served as a judicial staff attorney for Judge Cassandra Collier-Williams of the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas commercial docket, where he drafted proposed judicial opinions and memoranda. During law school, he served as an extern for then-Chief Judge Solomon Oliver, Jr. of the United States District Court (ND Ohio), during which time he drafted preliminary opinions for Judge Oliver's review.

Born in Cleveland, DeAngelo grew up in Bedford, Ohio. He enjoys spending quality time with his loved ones, traveling abroad, and experiencing other cultures. In his spare time, he embraces adrenaline-rush activities, including skydiving and ziplining.

Education

- Cleveland State University College of Law (J.D., 2017); Cleveland State Law Review, Executive Editor; CALI Excellence for the Future Award in Special Education Law
- Purdue University (B.A., 2013)

State Admissions

- Ohio, 2018

Federal Admissions

- United States Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit
- United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio
- United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio

Service Areas

- Health & Life Sciences
- Life Sciences Litigation
- Mass Tort & Product Liability
- eDiscovery
- Business Litigation

Experience

- Obtained a complete defense verdict in a construction defect case alleging breach of contract and fraud
- Successfully raised and argued a *Daubert* motion during trial, resulting in the exclusion of plaintiff's key experts
- Successfully raised and argued evidentiary motion in limine concerning the relevance of certain records, resulting in their exclusion at trial
- Assisted in leading, overseeing, and managing a document review for a national health care company in response to a discovery request
- Moved and argued for a directed verdict in a wrongful death trial
- As the lead briefer, obtained summary judgment on all claims for a hospital client in an important precedent case on a legal issue of significant importance to hospitals statewide: the application of the agency by estoppel doctrine to outpatient medical care
- Assisted in drafting a writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court of the United States on behalf of a health care facility involving a jurisdictional issue between state and federal courts' ability to adjudicate certain ERISA claims
- Briefed a memorandum in support of jurisdiction to the Supreme Court of Ohio that resulted in the Court's discretionary review over a default judgment entered against two health care companies
- Worked on a team representing a skilled nursing facility on appeal that obtained a unanimous reversal of judgment for more than \$350,000

Publications & Events

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- “Continuing the Conversation ... You’re Going to Pay Me What?”, Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Career Development Office (March 2022)
- “What I Wish I Knew Then,” Case Western Reserve University School of Law and Black Law Students Association (October 2021)
- “Mentors vs. Sponsors,” Moderator, 6th Annual Law Student Summit for Success, Norman S. Minor Bar Association, Cleveland, Ohio (September 2021)
- “Things I Didn’t Learn in Law School,” 2021 Summer Associate Panel, Norman S. Minor Bar Association (June 2021)
- “Mentors v. Sponsors,” Norman S. Minor Bar Association 5th Annual Law Student Summit for Success (November 2020)
- “Write Less, Say More: Tips for Writing a Moot Court Brief,” Law & Citizenship Conference, Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (September 2016)

PUBLICATIONS

- “[Five Tips for Associates Reviewing or Producing Medical Records](#),” American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Mass Torts Litigation (February 2022)
- “[COVID-19 and Ivermectin Lawsuits](#),” American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Mass Torts Litigation (October 2021)

In the Community

- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
- Norman S. Minor Bar Association
- Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association, Trustee
- Gilmour Academy, Upper School Moot Court Team Coach
- NBLSA’s National Thurgood Marshall Moot Court Competition, National Advisor and Problem Writer
- Legal Aid Society of Cleveland
 - » Time Well Spent Honor Society
 - » Community Commitment Honor Society
- Shiloh Temple House of God, Inc., Board of Directors
- House of God International, Inc., Board of Directors