



CECILIE M. LOIDOLT

Partner

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Cecilie Loidolt has taken over 60 cases to jury defending her clients in high-exposure medical malpractice lawsuits. She has significant experience representing medical providers in eight-figure birth injury cases and often serves as national counsel. Minnesota Super Lawyers featured Cecilie with the article, “The Gunslinger, The Bulldog or The Pit Bull: Call her what you want—Cecilie Loidolt just wins.” She also has been named Lawyer of the Year by Minnesota Lawyer.

EDUCATION

Hamline University School of Law,
J.D., 1992
cum laude, Merit Scholarship, Silver
Gavel Honor Society

University of Minnesota , B.S., 1985

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Arthur Chapman, Kettering, Smetak
& Pikala
Of Counsel
Bassford Remele
Shareholder
Meagher & Geer
Partner

ADMISSIONS

Minnesota
Wisconsin

HIGHLIGHTS

- Won a jury defense verdict in a medical malpractice case alleging a medication for kidney stones caused a severe skin reaction, Steven-Johnson Syndrome, resulting in catastrophic injuries and damages.
- Won a case-ending motion to dismiss for one of the largest healthcare providers in central Iowa. Agreeing with WTO's client's arguments, the Iowa district court dismissed plaintiffs' complaint with prejudice.
- Won a jury defense verdict for an ER doctor in Minnesota.
- Won a jury defense verdict in a case where the plaintiffs claimed a family medicine physician failed to diagnose and treat hypertensive emergency, failed to hospitalize the 39-year-old male patient, and failed to prevent hemorrhagic stroke the next day. Plaintiffs' counsel requested a verdict in excess of \$40 million. The jury returned a verdict for the defense in 1 hour and 20 minutes.
- Won a jury defense verdict in a case where the plaintiff alleged a pain specialist was negligent for the over-prescription of opioid medications leading to addiction over the course of 23 years. The defendant was located in Hong Kong during the trial due to Covid. He attended the trial and testified via video.
- Won a jury defense verdict in a case where the plaintiff alleged that the anesthesia team was negligent for failure to evaluate limited neck extension and for negligent intubation during low back surgery, resulting in massive C5-C6 disc herniation and paralysis from the neck down.
- Won a jury defense verdict for an obstetrician in a case where the plaintiff claimed negligent application of excessive downward traction during shoulder dystocia delivery, resulting in permanent brachial plexus palsy.

INDUSTRIES

- Healthcare

PRACTICE AREAS

- Healthcare Professional Liability

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BIOGRAPHY

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Cecilie has won high-profile trials, including a first-of-its-kind opioid addiction case for a pain specialist. Her recent victories also include winning a defense verdict for a doctor in a \$40 million stroke case and a defense verdict for an anesthesia team in a paralysis case involving spinal surgery. She is based in Minneapolis, where Best Law Firms ranks the firm for Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants.

When Cecilie meets clients for the first time, she stresses her two main client service approaches. She defends her clients the way she would want to be defended if she were in their shoes. And she tells them, “You take care of patients, and I take care of you.”

The military is important to Cecilie and her family. Her husband, Neal, served in the military for over 34 years and was deployed twice to Iraq. During deployments, Cecilie continued to try cases. Their son, Sam, also serves his country and was deployed to Romania. Their family mantra is “we will make it work.” Cecilie received the 2019 Superior Volunteer Service Award, the highest National Guard award to a civilian.

CASES

- Won a jury defense verdict in a medical malpractice case alleging a medication for kidney stones caused a severe skin reaction, Steven-Johnson Syndrome, resulting in catastrophic injuries and damages.
- Won a case-ending motion to dismiss for one of the largest healthcare providers in central Iowa. Agreeing with WTO's client's arguments, the Iowa district court dismissed plaintiffs' complaint with prejudice.
- Won a jury defense verdict in a \$15 million case for an emergency room doctor accused of failing to diagnose stroke.
- Won a jury defense verdict in a case where the plaintiffs claimed a family medicine physician failed to diagnose and treat hypertensive emergency, failed to hospitalize the 39-year-old male patient, and failed to prevent hemorrhagic stroke the next day. Plaintiffs' counsel requested a verdict in excess of \$40 million. The jury returned a verdict for the defense in 1 hour and 20 minutes.

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- Won a jury defense verdict in a case where the plaintiff alleged a pain specialist was negligent for the over-prescription of opioid medications leading to addiction over the course of 23 years. The defendant was located in Hong Kong during the trial due to Covid. He attended the trial and testified via video.
- Won a jury defense verdict in a case where the plaintiff alleged that the anesthesia team was negligent for failure to evaluate limited neck extension and for negligent intubation during low back surgery, resulting in massive C5-C6 disc herniation and paralysis from the neck down.
- Won a jury defense verdict for an obstetrician in a case where the plaintiff claimed negligent application of excessive downward traction during shoulder dystocia delivery, resulting in permanent brachial plexus palsy.
- Won a jury defense verdict for a family medicine physician in a wrongful death of infant case. The plaintiff claimed the medical team failed to diagnose diabetic ketoacidosis of mother, resulting in the death of 27-week-old infant.
- Won a jury defense verdict for a plastic surgeon in a case where the plaintiff claimed delay in diagnosis of cancer, resulting in stage IV breast cancer and reduced chance of survival.
- Won a jury defense verdict representing a dermatopathologist in a wrongful death case where the plaintiff alleged failure to diagnose melanoma.
- Won a jury defense verdict for four obstetricians on a claim of failure to properly treat preterm premature rupture of membranes, resulting in infection, neonatal encephalopathy, and cerebral palsy.
- Won a jury defense verdict for two obstetricians in a case where the plaintiff alleged failure to properly treat severe preeclampsia, resulting in maternal stroke.
- Won a jury defense verdict in a birth injury case against a family practice provider, in which plaintiffs claimed failure to deliver the infant by c-section earlier caused neonatal encephalopathy and cerebral palsy.

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BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Not admitted in Colorado
Minnesota
Wisconsin
U.S. Supreme Court
U.S. Court of Appeals, 8th Circuit
North Dakota
U.S. District Court, D. Minnesota
U.S. District Court, D. North Dakota

LEGAL MEMBERSHIPS, ACTIVITIES & HONORS

- Minnesota Super Lawyers – more than 20 consecutive years
Best Lawyers in America
Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants, 2025-2026
Litigation Counsel of America (LCA)
President
Senior Fellow
J. Ric Gass Trial Presentation Award, inaugural recipient, 2022
Distinctions: Order of Centurions, Barrister; Order of Certus, Advocate.
AV Preeminent rating Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Rating
Lawyer of the Year from Minnesota Lawyer, 2012
Superior Volunteer Service Award from the National Guard, 2019

ARTICLES & PRESENTATIONS

Presentations

- Presenter, "Anchoring: Fighting Back," Healthcare Services Group (HSG) Claims Conference (April 10, 2026).
- Presenter, "Anchoring in Trial Presentation," The Doctors Company Seminar Series (July 7, 2025).
- Presenter, "Counter-Anchoring Early and Often," Medical Professional Liability Claims Defense Forum (May 21, 2025).
- Presenter, "Anchoring Early and Often in the Life of a Lawsuit," The Doctors Company, Claims Education Training Webinar (April 8, 2025).
- Presenter, "Refocusing Jury Selection: Looking Beyond Demographics," MCIC Shared Learning Conference (October 23, 2024).
- Presenter, "Anchoring Damages from the Defense Side," MPLA Claims and Risk Management/Patient Safety Workshop (September 2024).

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- Presenter, "AEIX Webinar Live Event: The Art of Visual Persuasion: How Trial Lawyers are Using AV Resources to Enhance their Evidence and Win Over Juries" (December 21, 2023).
- Presenter, "Jury Selection: Has Anything Changed?" Litigation Counsel of America, Fall Conference, October 13, 2022
- Presenter, "Nuclear Verdicts and the Reptile," COPIC Claims Leadership Conference, July 2022
- Presenter, "So, Now What? A Candid Look at the Progress of Women in the Practice of Law, Litigation Counsel of America," 2019 Fall Conference & Celebration of Fellows, Bluffton, SC, October 25, 2019
- Presenter, "Embracing the Reptile: Defending Medical Providers at Trial, North Dakota Defense Lawyers Association," Bismarck, ND, September 19, 2019
- Presenter, "Pretrial Motions and Trial Strategies, DRI Reptile Seminar," Chicago, IL, June 13, 2018
- Co-Chair, 2018 Medical Malpractice Conference, HCBA/MNAJ/MDLA, Minneapolis, MN, April 12, 2018
- Faculty, 2017 Medical Malpractice Conference, HCBA/MNAJ/MDLA, Minneapolis, MN, April 20, 2017
- Presenter, "Informed Consent - The Latest Trend in Medical Malpractice Claims," HealthPartners In-Service, November 24, 2016
- Presenter, "Gender Equality and Lawyers: A Conversation Starter," Minnesota National Guard Joint Leadership Board, Rosemount, MN, November 2, 2016
- Presenter, "Minimizing the Risk of Malpractice Lawsuits: Informed Consent, Negligent Nondisclosure, and the 'Reptile' Theory," ENT SpecialtyCare of Minnesota, August 24, 2016
- Presenter, "What I Learned from Trying My Biggest Case," Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association Medical Liability and Health Care Law Committee Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, April 21, 2016
- Presenter, "Glass Ceilings and Glass Slippers," Litigation Counsel of America, 2015 Spring Conference & Celebration of Fellows, Newport Beach, CA, April 16, 2015
- Presenter, "Working with Experts," Continuing Education Seminar, Minnesota State Bar Association, Minneapolis, MN, December 2, 2015

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- Panelist, "Illuminating the Path: Scaling the Obstacles on Your Way," 14th Annual MDLA Women Lawyers' Breakfast, Minneapolis, MN, July 9, 2015
- Presenter, "Reducing the Risk of Malpractice Lawsuits," Surgical Specialists of Minnesota, Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis, MN, June 24, 2015
- Presenter, "Own It: Seizing your Power and Choosing your Path," 11th Annual Women's Leadership Conference, Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, April 24, 2015
- Presenter, "Getting the Plaintiff on the Special Verdict Form for Contributory Negligence," Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association Medical Liability and Health Care Committee Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, November 14, 2012
- Presenter, "Cross Examination of Experts; an Exercise in Wordsmithing," Litigation Counsel of America 2010 Fall Conference and Induction of Fellows, Naples, FL, October, 2010

PERSONAL INTERESTS

- Public service, supporting military families, running, travel, wine.