

LEADERS in the LAW 2014

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McKeen, co-founder and managing partner at McKeen & Associates, handles birth trauma cases. He has obtained numerous million-dollar verdicts, including a \$12.9 million judgment against Genesys Regional Medical Center, one of Michigan's largest in 2013.

Important mentor(s):

Hon. Dorothy Comstock Riley. She gave me my first job after law school clerking at the Michigan Court of Appeals. She taught me to search for a career opportunity that would allow me to fulfill my ultimate goal of becoming a top trial lawyer.

Biggest accomplishment:

I have won many trials and I have set the record twice for the largest medical malpractice verdict in Michigan. But I would like to think that none stands as my biggest accomplishment because each of them was equally important to my clients.

First job:

Working in the law school library. It was important because it opened a lot of doors for me before and after law

school. One opportunity led to the next.

Advice to law school self:

Have a little more fun. It's all good.

Biggest professional challenge:

The systematic destruction of the civil justice system by the insurance industry and special interests.

Achieving balance:

Have a passion for the law and for activities outside the law, and make time to indulge those passions.

If not a lawyer, I would be:

A coach.

Guilty pleasure:

Time away with friends on the golf course. And the 19th hole.

Favorite book/movie:

Objection. Compound question. Too many favorites to pick one. Love Hemingway and Michigan's own Jim Harrison.

Five guests for a fantasy dinner party:

Thomas Jefferson, Ernest Hemingway, Theodore Roosevelt, Winston Churchill and Sophia Loren.

You don't know:

I do have a heart, and my best friends are the guys I grew up with.



Education: B.S., Central Michigan University; J.D., The Thomas M. Cooley Law School