



**J.P. Gatto,
Shareholder**

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John Paul (JP) Joseph Gatto focuses his complex trial practice in the areas of product liability, aviation litigation, construction litigation, environmental litigation, transportation litigation, insurance law and appeals.

JP has represented a wide variety of clients in alleged large loss cases, including agricultural, commercial, aviation, home appliance and pharmaceutical manufacturers, to small businesses and individuals. He has handled a wide variety of claims including wrongful death, catastrophic personal injury claims, warranty disputes, contract claims, claims for lost profit or business income, claims for violations of trade secrets, issues of insurance coverage, and other general litigation matters up to and through trial and any subsequent appeals. JP has also represented accident victims and their families.

He is licensed to practice in the state courts of Minnesota and Wisconsin, as well as Minnesota Federal courts and the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals and has practiced in a number of other courts and jurisdictions throughout the country.

JP is a member of the Minnesota and Wisconsin Bar Associations, the Hennepin and Ramsey County Bar Associations, and the Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association. He also is a pro bono participant in the Tubman Safety Project to secure protective orders on behalf of victims of domestic abuse.

JP received his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Hamline University School of Law, where he served as an associate and editor on the Hamline Law Review.

In his free time JP enjoys traveling with his family as well as golfing, downhill skiing, and supporting his beloved local sports franchises.

Minnesota

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Practice Areas

- [Aviation Litigation](#)
- [Commercial Litigation](#)
- [Insurance Related Litigation](#)
- [Product Liability Defense](#)
- [Transportation Litigation](#)

Honors

- *Minnesota Super Lawyers Rising Star*, 2014 – 2018

Articles

- Recent District of Minnesota Opinion Portrays Broad Application of Criminal-Acts Exclusion, *HKM Legal News – November 2015*
- Wisconsin Court Weighs In On The Destruction Of Evidence In The Face Of An Impending Lawsuit: Do It And Risk Serious Sanctions, *MB Legal News – October, 2013*
- Be Careful, You Could Still be Left Holding the Bag, Even for Non-Defendants, If Others Can't Pay, *MB Legal News – July, 2013*

Representative Cases

- *Kedrowski v. Lycoming Engines*, 62-cv-12-9581 (Ramsey Cty. MN, 2016): Small plane crash resulting in catastrophic injuries to pilot. Allegation that crash caused by defective fuel pump designed and manufactured by defendant. After a 4-week trial and post-trial motions, judgment as a matter of law granted in favor of defendant setting aside verdict of \$27+ million.
- *Kopell/Cook v. Seneca Foods*, 65-CV-14-235 and 65-CV-14-236, (Renville Cty., MN, 2016): Motor vehicle collision with farm equipment owned by defendant resulting in deaths of both front seat passengers, and injuries to two rear seat passengers. Initial demand of nearly \$5 million. Case resolved shortly before trial for fraction of original demand.
- *Hazmat v. Magnum*, 13-CV-15-754 (Chisago Cty, MN 2016): Commercial trucking accident resulting in substantial property damage to client's vehicle. Full value of damages recovered at mediation.

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Memberships

- Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association (MDLA)
- Minnesota State Bar Association (MSBA)
- Wisconsin State Bar Association (WSBA)
- Hennepin County Bar Association (HCBA)
- Ramsey County Bar Association (RCBA)
- Defense Research Institute (DRI)

- *Brouwer v. Global Indus.*, LACCV020887 (Butler Cty. IA, 2015): Farming accident involving an auger intake resulting in right hand amputation. Plaintiff alleged that the intake auger designed and manufactured by defendant was not properly guarded. Defense verdict following a 2-week trial (less than 2 hours of deliberations).
- *Farmers v. Electrolux*, 02-cv-14-4060 (Anoka Cty., MN, 2015): Fire subrogation claim allegedly resulting from defective oven manufactured by client. Case resolved at mediation for less than 20% of original demand.
- *Scotter v. CNH*, 14-26 (Beadle Cty., SD, 2015): Wrongful death farming accident allegedly caused by defective bulldozer manufactured by defendant. Nuisance value settlement after single deposition.
- *Bremmon v. Titan Machinery and CNH Ind.*, No. 14-20 (Marshall Cty. SD, 2015): Warranty claim arising out of alleged defect with defendants' corn picker and header. Case dismissed while summary judgment motion pending.
- *Crocker v. Hooper Corp.*, 50-CV-14-1946 (Mower Cty, MN, 2015): Significant burn injuries following electrocution in electrical substation controlled by defendant. Favorable settlement for defendant after initial demand in excess of \$1.5 million.
- *Grambart v. CNH*, 13-CV-03578 (District of Minn. 2015): Traumatic brain injury to plaintiff upon ejection from tractor designed and manufactured by defendant. Plaintiff in a vegetative state. Initial demand of nearly \$20 million. Case resolved for minor fraction of demand.
- *Roskos v. All Trades*, 85-CV-12-2136 (Winona Cty., MN, 2014): Traumatic brain injury to plaintiff after fall from elevated catwalk installed by client. Resolved for nuisance value on eve of trial.
- *Sinnwell v. Aaron Equipment*, LACV029435 (Floyd Cty., IA, 2014): Catastrophic chemical burns sustained by Plaintiff while working with a holding vessel sold by client. Summary judgment granted in favor of client.
- *ECI v. Bolduc*, 825 N.W.2d 695 (Minn. 2013): Underground pipeline damaged during construction project. Coverage sought by general contractor from subcontractor insured on the basis of an Additional Insured endorsement in insured's contract. After trial in which insured found not at fault, summary judgment obtained in favor of insurer. Ruling ultimately affirmed by Supreme Court.
- *Green Plains v. Fagen and Hogenson*, arbitrated matter (2013): Construction case involving alleged defects in the manufacture of slip form concrete grain silos. Claimed losses in excess of \$5 million. Claim settled for fraction of demand.
- *Linden v. CNH*, 673 F.3d 829 (8th Cir., 2012): Plaintiff sustained significant lower body injuries after being degloved during bulldozer rollover. Plaintiff claimed that seatbelt installed on bulldozer manufactured by defendant was defective. Defense verdict returned after 2-week trial. Verdict affirmed on appeal.
- *Rousu v. Newell*, 09-CV-1987 (District of Minn. 2011): Eye injury sustained by plaintiff after allegedly being struck by failed mop bucket spring. Case dismissed after arbitration finding in favor of defendant client.

- *Kalenda v. Veit*, 2011 WL 6757459 (Minn. Ct. App. 2011): Plaintiff catastrophically injured after fall from interior of mall entrance overhang during construction project. Summary judgment obtained on behalf of general contractor.
- *Lee v. Yamaha*, 27-09-10888 (Hennepin Cty., MN, 2010): Significant personal injury sustained by client after snowmobile unintended acceleration. Product liability case resolved for substantial value.