



**Bonnie J. Beavan**  
**Partner**

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Bonnie Beavan is a partner with Goodell DeVries. Before entering the private practice of law, Bonnie was a law clerk to the Honorable Edward B. Davis of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, and a law clerk with the United States Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Organized Crime and Racketeering Section, in Washington, D.C.

Since entering private practice in 1986, Bonnie's work has focused on pharmaceutical, product liability, and professional malpractice defense. She defends her clients against claims of negligence, regulatory non-compliance, fraud, and alleged failures to adequately test, manufacture, design, and warn about products and medications. Bonnie represents manufacturers, hospitals, physicians, and other healthcare providers and companies in local, federal, and multidistrict litigation. Her practice encompasses all phases of the litigation process, including pre-trial, trial, and appellate representation.

Bonnie's medical device and pharmaceutical work has focused on the representation of corporations and manufacturers in individual lawsuits, multidistrict suits, and class actions. Her responsibilities have included the defense of suits alleging autoimmune disease, heart damage, cancer, neurological deficits, and other personal injuries as a result of exposure to silicone gel-filled breast implants, latex gloves, diet drugs, hormone therapy medications, thimerosal, and other products and medications. She has also counseled clients concerning alleged failures to comply with regulatory reporting and submission requirements.

Bonnie's medical malpractice trial work has involved multiple areas of medicine, including cardiology, hematology, neurosurgery, general surgery, internal medicine, infectious diseases, pathology, obstetrics, gynecology, emergency medicine, radiology, neurology, psychiatry, and family practice medicine.

## Practice Areas

- Product Liability
  - Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Litigation
- Class Action Litigation
- Medical Malpractice
- Medical Institutions Law

## Court Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Maryland
- United States District Court for the District of Columbia
- United States District Court for the District of Maryland
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- United States Supreme Court

## Education

- Georgetown University Law Center (J.D., *cum laude*, 1985)
  - *American Criminal Law Review* – Editor (1984-1985)
- University of Maryland (B.A., *summa cum laude*, 1982)
  - Phi Beta Kappa
  - Provost's Scholar

## Professional Associations

- International Association of Defense Counsel Trial Academy Faculty Member (1997)
- The Defense Research Institute – Speaker at the DRI's Complex Medicine program panel entitled "Gatekeeper or Grim Reaper: Frye and Daubert Challenges – Motion Strategy and Medical Expert Testimony" (November 2014)
- Maryland Defense Counsel, Inc. – Professional Malpractice Committee (1992)
- Maryland State Bar Association
- District of Columbia Bar Association

## Professional Experience

- Goodell DeVries – Partner (1993-Present); Associate (1988-1992)
- Semmes, Bowen & Semmes – Associate (1986-1988)
- The Honorable Edward B. Davis, United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida – Law Clerk (1985-1986)
- The United States Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Organized Crime and Racketeering Section, Washington, D.C. – Law Clerk (1984-1985)

## Representative Matters

- *Moore v. Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories*, 236 F. Supp. 2d 509 (D. Md. 2002). Prescription Drug Litigation: On removal of a state-court-filed action against a diet drug manufacturer and a pharmacy, the federal district court confirmed that a defendant who is fraudulently joined to a lawsuit does not need to consent to removal of the action from state court to federal court. The federal district court granted the client's (defendant manufacturer's) motion to defer ruling on plaintiffs' motion to remand and granted client's motion to stay pre-trial proceedings pending transfer of the action to the Multidistrict Litigation court.
- *Turner v. Forestvilla, Inc., et al.*, Superior Court of the District of Columbia (1993). Negligence and Negligent Supervision Action: Trial court granted client's motion to dismiss on the grounds of lack of personal jurisdiction and forum non conveniens. Suit was later refiled in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, where all claims against Goodell DeVries' client were also dismissed.
- *Liverpool v. Georgetown University Hospital, et al.*, Superior Court of the District of Columbia (1992). Medical Malpractice Action: Trial court granted defendants' (clients') motion for summary judgment and request for dismissal based upon lack of sufficient expert testimony and plaintiffs' discovery failures.
- *Sims v. Litofsky*, Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland (1991). Defense verdict for client, a neurosurgeon, accused of medical malpractice resulting in plaintiff's permanent paralysis.
- *Farwell v. Un*, 902 F.2d 282 (4th Cir. 1990). Medical Malpractice Action: Appellate court affirmed trial court's grant of summary judgment in favor of client, a psychiatrist, whose patient committed suicide the day after an office visit.

## Publications and Seminars

- Speaker at DRI's Complex Medicine program panel entitled "Gatekeeper or Grim Reaper: *Frye* and *Daubert* Challenges — Motion Strategy and Medical Expert Testimony" (November 2014)
- Faculty member for Maryland State Bar Association course on Deposition Practice and Procedure, Baltimore, Maryland (December 2011; December 2013)
- Faculty member for MICPEL course on Deposition Practice and Procedure, Baltimore, Maryland (December 2006, December 2008)
- Presenter, Educational Session entitled "Vaginal Birth After Cesarean Delivery (VBAC): The Legal Perspective," at the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) 47th Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia (May 2002)
- Invited faculty member to address "The Use of Epidemiology in the Judicial Setting," Graduate Summer Program, Institute of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland (2001)
- Presenter, Educational Session entitled "Failure to Diagnose Breast Cancer: The Legal Perspective," at the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) 46th Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (June 2001)
- Presenter at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions-sponsored program "Principles & Practice of Clinical Magnetic Resonance Imaging," Marco Island, Florida, 1998, presentation entitled "Legal Issues in MRI" (1998)
- Faculty Member, International Association of Defense Counsel Trial Academy, provided demonstration and instruction to practicing attorneys on the methods of trial advocacy (1997)
- Mock Trial Judge, Georgetown University Law Center, provided critiques and instruction to J.D. candidates on methods of persuasion and oral argument of motions and appeals (1986-1990)

## Honors and Awards

- AV Preeminent Rated, Martindale-Hubbell
- Best Lawyers in America
  - Product Liability Litigation — Defendants (2020-2025)
- Maryland Super Lawyers
  - Personal Injury — Products: Defense (2024-2025)