

SPANGENBERG TRIAL PRACTICE AND LITIGATION INSTITUTE 2025

Friday, April 25, 2025 | 12:00pm—5:00pm

Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association – 1375 East 9th Street, 2nd Floor, Cleveland, OH 44114

4 Total CLE Credit Hours (*3 hrs general; 1 hr ethics*)

Registration Fee: **\$150 paid directly to The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland**

12:00pm—12:45pm **LUNCH PROVIDED**

Opening Remarks from The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

12:45 pm—1:45pm **Anti-Terrorism Cases and the \$1 Billion Judgment Against Iran**

How law firms fight terrorists by using the civil justice system to hold accountable the governments and banks that sponsor them and obtain billion-dollar judgments on behalf of terrorist victims, including U.S. soldiers.

Jeremy Tor

1:45pm—2:30pm **Corporate Malfeasance in a Nursing Home Case**

Understaffing is part of a business model to maximize profits—and it's a problem that's way worse than you think: Getting the staffing data and using a 30(B)(5) corporate rep. depo to prove the case against the corporation!

Nicholas DiCello and Dustin Herman

2:30pm—2:45pm **BREAK**

2:45pm—3:15pm **Medical Negligence and the Lack of Informed Consent**

“What we have here is a failure to communicate”—When doctors fail to properly inform the patient about the risks and benefits of a treatment plan—and the other options available—you may have a separate cause of action for lack of informed consent that is more powerful than an ordinary claim for medical malpractice.

Stuart Scott and Michael Lewis

3:15pm—4:15pm **Ethics of Using Artificial Intelligence—April 2025 Edition**

There is an ever-increasing variety of AI tools available to legal practitioners: What you need to know, understand, and appreciate about the benefits and risks of using AI.

Michael Lewis and Kevin Hulick

4:15pm—5:00pm **Are We in the Post Post-Covid Era Yet?**

How people and juries have changed since covid and how it affects our practice and our juries.

Dennis Lansdowne

5:00pm—6:00pm **COCKTAIL & NETWORKING RECEPTION**

SPANGENBERG TRIAL PRACTICE AND LITIGATION INSTITUTE 2025:

SPEAKER CREDENTIALS:

Dennis R. Lansdowne

Mr. Lansdowne has been a partner at the firm since 1990. He joined Spangenberg Shibley & Liber as an associate from Jones Day Reavis & Pogue. Prior to Jones Day, Dennis was a law clerk in the Northern District of Ohio and Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals for the Honorable Robert B. Krupansky. He concentrates his practice on medical negligence, nursing home liability, catastrophic injuries, insurance coverage, and unique commercial litigation. Dennis has been consistently recognized in “The Best Lawyers in America” in both medical malpractice and personal injury. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, the International Society of Barristers and a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. Dennis is frequently asked to present on various aspects of the trial process by lawyers, judges, and law professors.

Stuart E. Scott

Mr. Scott, a partner since 2005, has been a lawyer with Spangenberg since graduating from Ohio State Law School in 1995. Stuart represents individuals and families who have been catastrophically injured or killed as a result of negligence, medical malpractice, dangerous products or defective drugs. Since becoming partner, Stuart has expanded his practice into Consumer Rights cases. Stuart received his J.D. from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and his B.S. in Business and Finance from Ball State University. Stuart has tried ten cases to at least a million-dollar verdict with several multimillion-dollar verdicts, including a \$28 million wrongful death verdict.

Nicholas A. DiCello

Mr. DiCello, a partner since 2011, joined Spangenberg Shibley & Liber LLP in 2004 after serving as a law clerk for the late Honorable John M. Manos, Senior Judge for the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. Nick was afforded this opportunity after graduating *magna cum laude* from the Cleveland Marshall College of Law in 2002. He joined the Judge John M. Manos Inn of Court in 2012. *Super Lawyers* has consistently recognized Nick as a top-rated personal injury lawyer and he is now also noted by *Best Lawyers* as a top-rated Civil Rights lawyer in Cleveland. Nick has successfully tried to verdict many cases, including civil rights, medical malpractice, and professional malpractice cases.

Jeremy A. Tor

Mr. Tor joined the Spangenberg firm in 2014; he’s been a partner since 2020. He handles a variety of personal injury and wrongful death cases, including medical malpractice, civil rights, motor vehicle, and premises liability. He has successfully tried numerous cases, including obtaining a \$28 million verdict in Cincinnati and, most recently, a \$17 million wrongful death case in Cleveland. He also helps lead a team of six law firms pursuing antiterrorism cases in federal court in D.C. on behalf of U.S. soldiers who were killed in terror attacks in Iraq. He is actively pursuing cases on behalf of victims of the October 7 Hamas-led massacre. He has been recognized by The Best Lawyers in America for several years and in 2024 received the award for Lawyer of the Year for Civil Rights Law. Before joining the Spangenberg firm, Mr. Tor worked in the litigation department of a large multinational law firm in New York. Mr. Tor received his law degree from the University of Virginia. After law school, he served as a law clerk to a federal judge. Before law school, he was a Teach For America corps member in Baltimore, where he taught Spanish to high school students and earned a Master’s in teaching from Johns Hopkins University. He received his B.A. from the University of Arizona, with Honors, *summa cum laude*.

Dustin B. Herman

Dustin B. Herman is a partner with Spangenberg Shibley & Liber and concentrates his practice on medical malpractice, pharmaceutical and medical device litigation, catastrophic/brain injury cases, and trucking cases. In 2013, Dustin was named as one of south FL's "Most Effective Lawyers" by the Daily Business Review for his role in obtaining a \$28.5 million verdict in a traumatic brain injury case. In April 2022, Dennis Lansdowne and Dustin obtained a \$6.5 million verdict in a medical malpractice-wrongful death case. In February 2023, Nick DiCello and Dustin obtained a \$6 million verdict in a medical malpractice-wrongful death case. In April 2024, Dustin and Nick DiCello obtained a \$6 million verdict in a nursing home-wrongful death case. Dustin is a *Past-President* of the National Trial Lawyers' Top 40 Under 40. He currently serves on the *Board of Trustees* for the Ohio Association for Justice and is the *Vice-President* for the Cleveland Academy of Trial Attorneys.

Michael P. Lewis

Mike is a partner with Spangenberg Shibley & Liber and focuses his practice primarily on medical malpractice, civil rights, and catastrophic injury litigation. Mike came to Spangenberg in 2020 after practicing in Los Angeles, California with a large plaintiff's firm. He has successfully tried many cases, most recently obtaining a \$1.5 million medical malpractice verdict in Cuyahoga County in 2024. Mike graduated from Loyola Law School – Los Angeles in 2014, where he was a two-time mock trial national finalist and the recipient of the ABOTA award for excellence in trial advocacy. He obtained his bachelor's degree from Wake Forest University in 2009. Prior to law school, Mike was awarded a United States Fulbright Scholarship and spent a year living and working in Dresden, Germany.

Kevin C. Hulick

Mr. Hulick joined the firm as an associate in 2018 after clerking for the Honorable Benita Y. Pearson (N.D. Ohio). Prior to clerking for Judge Pearson, Kevin worked as an associate at a litigation boutique in Columbus, Ohio, where he focused on corporate business disputes. Kevin began his career at the Ohio Attorney General's Office. As an assistant attorney general, Kevin represented state agencies and officers in election-related litigation and employment disputes. Kevin graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law in 2015 and Youngstown State University in 2012. Kevin's practice at Spangenberg focuses on consumer class action disputes and civil rights cases.