

G. William Shaw

Partner

Seattle
+1.206.370.7955

bill.shaw@klgates.com

OVERVIEW

Bill Shaw's primary area of practice is complex civil litigation, in both state and federal courts. He has extensive jury trial experience in Washington state and federal courts. Bill handles a wide variety of litigation matters, including significant patent, trademark, intellectual property and trade secrets issues, legal malpractice, general commercial disputes, white collar crime, products liability and toxic torts, and environmental litigation and arbitration. Bill's practice has focused on matters involving complex technical and scientific issues.

Previously, Bill helped coordinate the efforts of the firm's product liability team. His past experience includes leading the defense in Washington state and the Northwest for four active asbestos defendants. Bill also acted as national, regional, and local punitive damages counsel for another defendant.

Bill has defended a number of individuals and companies on a myriad of personnel issues involving interpersonal interactions and employment related matters. Bill has defended against claims of assault, sexual harassment, and race and sex discrimination. Bill also has a plaintiff's personal injury practice and has many years of civil trial experience in both state and federal courts.

Bill has tried cases in five different states (California, Texas, Oregon, Minnesota, and Washington) for national clients, and semi-regularly serves as an arbitrator in King County. He was also a former public defender (1978 - 1983). Additionally, Bill has counseled clients regarding disputes concerning rights in computer software and has represented the firm's clients in software piracy matters.

Bill occasionally presents at Continuing Legal Education seminars. His most recent speaking engagement was at the Chemical Products Liability Litigation Seminar in Chicago. In addition, Bill and Martha Rodriguez-Lopez recently published a chapter on “The Expert at Trial: Cross-Examination” in *Expert Witness Answer Book*, a publication of the Practicing Law Institute. The deskbook looks at expert procedure and several important expert related areas using the PLK question and answer format.

Bill is recognized since 2018 in *Best Lawyers in America* for Product Liability Litigation - Defendants.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Commercial Litigation in Boston, since 2018

- Named to the Seattle Super Lawyers list, 2001-2003, 2005-2023

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Member, DRI
- Member, American Association of Justice (formerly ATLA)
- Member, Washington State Trial Lawyer's Association

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Washington School of Law, 1978
- B.A., University of Rochester, 1974

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Kansas
- Bar of Washington
- Supreme Court of the United States
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington
- United States District Court for the Western District of Washington

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 24 September 2025, Recent Appellate Opinion Offers Litigants Reason to Revisit the Application Of "Product Line" Successor Liability in Asbestos Cases

NEWS & EVENTS

- 16 December 2024, K&L Gates Secures US$10.5 Million Jury Verdict for Innovative Solutions
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 10 September 2020, K&L Gates Prevails on Summary Judgment in False Advertising Action Against Content Recommendation Platform

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mass Tort
- Commercial Disputes
- Environment and Energy
- International Trade, Investment Controls, and National Security
- Product Liability
- White Collar Defense and Investigations