Tucker Ellis LLP



Nicole E. Braden Lewis

Partner

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Nicole Braden Lewis serves as national and local counsel defending clients in product and premises liability cases, with an emphasis on asbestos litigation.

Nicole co-leads a national counsel team defending a product manufacturer in cases pending throughout the United States. In this capacity, she partners with the client and local counsel to plan and execute key strategies for fact investigation, fact and expert witnesses, and dispositive motion practice. Nicole also represents product manufacturers and premises owners sued in asbestos personal injury cases in Ohio state and federal courts. She has a reputation for developing sound case strategies that reduce future filings and legal spend. Applying lessons learned from the asbestos litigation, Nicole also counsels manufacturers in other industries on product safety and pre-suit investigations.

In her role as Chair of the Board of Directors for Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry, Nicole establishes organizational priorities, develops staff leadership, and helps maintain financial stability for this $13 million social services agency. Nicole's diverse background and experiences, including her emotional intelligence training with the Weatherhead School of Management, form the foundation for her unique ability to consistently foster positive relationships with plaintiff and defense attorneys, judges, product engineers, and expert witnesses.

Outside of work, Nicole's favorite race is the 10K, and she can be spotted onstage in the occasional dance concert.

Education

- Case Western Reserve University School of Law (J.D., magna cum laude, 2001); Order of the Coif
- Denison University (B.A., summa cum laude, 1998); Phi Beta Kappa

State Admissions

- Ohio, 2001
- District of Columbia, 2002
- Illinois, 2017

Federal Admissions

- United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio
- United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio
- United States District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin

Service Areas

- Mass Tort & Product Liability
- Life Sciences Litigation
- Business Litigation
- Consumer Product Safety
- Health & Life Sciences

Industries Represented

- Electrical Equipment
- Construction
- Medical Professionals (Doctors & Nurses)
- Manufacturing
- Pharmaceutical & Medicine
- Legal Services (Law Firms)
- Hospitals
- Retail Stores

Experience

- Secured favorable resolution after presenting opening statement in jury trial defending manufacturer in wrongful death (mesothelioma) asbestos case in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, state court
- Won jury trial defending manufacturer in wrongful death (mesothelioma) asbestos case in Miami, Florida, state court (assistant trial counsel)
- Won bench trial for pro bono client facing eviction from his home
- Leveraged favorable settlement during jury trial defending nursing home administrator in wrongful death and fraud case (second chair)
- Won jury trial defending certified nurse practitioner in nursing home negligence case (second chair)

Publications & Events

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Issue Spotting and Next Steps," Lawyers for Women in Crisis Training Seminar, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Cleveland, Ohio (May 2015)
- "Keeping Your Boiler Defendant from Losing Steam – Boiler Operation and Defense Strategy," prepared for DRI's Asbestos Medicine Seminar, San Francisco, California (November 2014)
- "Standing Up in Court: Fundamentals of Handling Exhibits and Using Depositions in Court," presented at the Federal Bar Association's New Lawyer Training Program (August 2013)
- "Credentialing and Peer Review of Health Care Providers: The Process and Protections ," presented in connection with ALI-ABA seminar/audio webcast (April 2012)

PUBLICATIONS

- "Emotional Intelligence: What Is It and What Can It Do for You?", *Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Journal* (April 2016), DRI's *Sharing Success*, The Newsletter of the Women in the Law Committee (May 2015)

MEDIA

- "The Scoop," *Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Journal* (February 2020)

Honors

- The Best Lawyers in America® (2026, 2027)
- Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Stars® (2005-2007, 2010-2013)
- Lawyer to Lawyer Give Back for Justice (October 2017)

In the Community

- Case Western Reserve University School of Law
  - » Society of Benchers (2023)
  - » Law Alumni Association Board, President (2022–2024)
- Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Board of Directors
  - » Chair (2019–2022)
- Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, Time Well Spent Honor Society
- Tucker Ellis Women's Initiative
  - » Co-Chair (2013–2023)
- American Bar Foundation, Fellow
- Eighth District Judicial Conference, Life Member