

James F. Groves

Jim Groves is a trial attorney with a general practice representing both individuals and corporations. Mr. Groves also is frequently called upon as a mediator. In 1972 he began private practice handling personal injury, insurance defense, divorce, and criminal defense matters. Since then, he has concentrated his practice in the areas of civil trial practice, including medical malpractice, corporate representation, personal injury, insurance defense, divorce, attorney malpractice defense, intellectual property and civil rights. Mr. Groves is recognized as an attorney who handles both plaintiffs and defense cases.

He is regularly retained in a wide array of insurance matters, representing both insurers and their insureds. He also handles business clients who are engaged in litigation, whether as plaintiffs or defendants. At the same time, Mr. Groves has an extensive practice on behalf of injured people and plaintiffs in medical malpractice cases. Through the years, Mr. Groves has tried every conceivable jury case including plaintiff s personal injury, insurance defense, medical malpractice, and copyright matters. He also has extensive experience in litigating and trying civil rights cases, primarily defending governmental entities in those matters. Because of his extensive experience in litigating and trying a diverse number of cases, Mr. Groves is often selected by his peers to serve as an arbitrator or mediator to resolve matters outside the courtroom and as Panel Chairman for medical malpractice cases.

Mr. Groves has tried over 150 jury cases in the State and Federal Courts in Indiana. He has tried an equal number of bench cases, divorces, and administrative matters. Because of his litigation and trial practice, Mr. Groves also has handled in excess of 50 appeals in both the Federal and State Courts, having argued before the Indiana Court of Appeals, the Indiana Supreme Court, and the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago. He is frequently called upon to represent judges, prosecuting attorneys, sheriffs, county commissioners, and various other political officeholders.

In representing plaintiffs at the trial level, Mr. Groves has obtained numerous verdicts ranging from \$500,000.00 to \$1.3 million, as well as a significant number of settlements in excess of \$1 million. In representing defendants in both personal injury and commercial matters, he has had numerous trials resulting in successful defense verdicts in the face of damage claims in the millions of dollars.

Education and professional credentials

Jim Groves graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Classical Literature. He is a 1972 graduate of the University of Notre Dame Law School. For at least 20 years he has maintained an AV rating, the highest rating attainable, in Martindale Hubbell, a nationally-recognized publication which polls the performance of attorneys throughout the United States. He was accepted as a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, as well as an Advocate before the American Board of Trial Advocates. Both societies are nationally recognized for accepting only the top five percent of trial attorneys in the country.

David T. Ready
Magistrate, St. Joseph Circuit Court
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Education: B.S. Degree from Northern Illinois University - 1964
J.D. Degree from Indiana University - 1971

Military: United States Air Force 4 yrs

Legal: Law Clerk - Indiana Supreme Court 1969 - 1971
Deputy Prosecutor - St. Joseph County 1971 - 1977
United States Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana 1977 - 1981
Private law firm practice 1981 - 1999
Certified mediator 1992 - 1999
St Joseph County Council Attorney 1988 - 1999
Adjunct Professor of Business Law Bethel College 1998 - date
Magistrate, St. Joseph Circuit Court 1999 - date

Memberships:

Indiana Judges Association
Indiana State Bar Association
St. Joseph County Bar Association
National Association of Former United States Attorneys
Indiana Commission on Continuing Legal Education 1988 - 1994
Indiana Community Defenders Board of Directors 1997 - date
Indiana Supreme Court Character & Fitness Committee 1975 - date
Hope Rescue Mission Board of Directors 1995 - date
Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors 1989 - 1992
Clay United Methodist Church Administrative Council 1999 - 2002
Clay United Methodist Church Board of Trustees 1993 - 1995
Mission on the Move - Board of Directors 2004 - date

Family:

Wife - Ginger - Nurse/Certified Case Manager (Indiana Univ. 1968)
Jennifer - Elementary Teacher (Ball St. Univ. 1991)
Karen - Accountant (Univ. of Notre Dame 1993)
Julie - Nurse (Indiana Univ. 1996)
Adam - Medical Doctor in radiology residency (Univ. of Wisconsin 1999) (Ind. Univ. School of Medicine 2005)

Mr. Groves also is a member of the American Bar Association, the St. Joseph County Bar Association, the-Defense Research Institute, and the American Inns of Court. He is a frequent speaker at legal education seminars and has authored numerous published articles. Jim also is a faculty member and teaches young trial lawyers for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy.

Charitable and community efforts

Jim has served on the Board of the St. Joseph Valley Scholarship Foundation, the Notre Dame Alumni Club of St. Joseph Valley Scholarship Advisory Board, and has served as President of the Notre Dame Alumni Club of St. Joseph Valley. Jim also served lengthy terms on the Board of Directors of the Fischhoff Music Association (a chamber music competition) and the South Bend Symphony. He is past President of the St. Joseph County Bar Association.

Jim also served as chief trial counsel in the office of the St. Joseph County Prosecuting Attorney and served 12 years as the attorney for the Town of Roseland, Indiana. Before he commenced his law practice, he served as an officer in the United States Army Infantry.