



Kamil Ismail
Partner

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Kamil Ismail is a partner with Goodell DeVries. He practices in the areas of product liability, insurance coverage, and commercial and business tort litigation. He has represented clients in bench and jury trials in state and federal courts, and in mediations and other proceedings.

In his product liability practice, Kamil has represented Pfizer Inc., Bayer, Wyeth, DENTSPLY, Perrigo, Intervet, and Akzo Nobel in cases involving pharmaceutical drugs, medical devices, and other medical, dental, and veterinary products. He has defended clients against class action lawsuits in a variety of settings. In his insurance coverage practice, Kamil has represented insurers and, occasionally, policyholders in coverage disputes. In his commercial and general civil litigation practice, Kamil has litigated business disputes on behalf of clients ranging from large corporations, including Pfizer Inc., Republic Services, and Genesis Health Ventures, to a variety of smaller companies. On referral from pro bono organizations, Kamil has also represented indigent clients in a variety of proceedings.

Kamil has considerable experience in appellate matters related to insurance coverage disputes. In a recent notable case, after successfully briefing and arguing for the adoption of time-on-the-risk pro rata allocation on behalf of the insurer in the trial court, Kamil participated on the appellate team that successfully defended the ruling and led to the adoption of this principle by the Supreme Court of Maryland. He also briefed and argued successfully for affirmance in the Appellate Court of Maryland in *Wood v. Nayfeh*, No. 1127 (Md. Ct. Spec. App. 2019), and he briefed and argued successfully for reversal on behalf of the policyholder in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in *Trice, Geary & Myers, LLC v. Camico Mut. Ins. Co.*, 459 F. App'x 266 (4th Cir. 2011).

Kamil began his legal career at Goodell DeVries in 1993, practicing in the areas of pharmaceutical liability and insurance coverage litigation. He left briefly to practice white collar criminal litigation at Hogan & Hartson, LLP but later returned to Goodell DeVries to focus on civil litigation. He has been a partner since 2004 and is AV Peer Review-Rated.

Practice Areas

- Appellate
- Product Liability
- Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Litigation
- Class Action Litigation
- Commercial and Business Tort Litigation
- Coverage
- General Tort Liability Litigation

Court Admissions

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

Education

- Columbia University (B.A., 1982)
- University of Maryland (J.D., *cum laude*, 1993)
 - Order of the Coif
 - *Maryland Law Review* – Executive Editor (1992-1993)

Professional Associations

- Character Committee of Court of Appeals of Maryland for the Sixth Appellate Circuit – Member (2014-Present)
- Governor's Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Commission for the Fourteenth Judicial District, Baltimore City – Member (2007-2015)
- University of Baltimore School of Law – Adjunct Professor (Advocacy) (2011-2013)

Representative Matters

- *Wyoming Premium Farms, LLC v. Pfizer Inc.*, (D. Wyo. 2013). Granting judgment on the pleadings based on federal preemption of state law claims relating to animal vaccines
- *Trice, Geary & Myers, LLC v. CAMICO Mut. Ins. Co.*, (4th Cir. 2011). Reversing summary judgment against client policyholder and directing entry of partial summary judgment in its favor regarding duty to defend
- *Federal Ins. Co. v. Dentsply Int'l, Inc.*, (M.D.Pa. 2007). Upholding position of client policyholder that excess insurance was triggered after application of collective trigger and single occurrence limit to underlying primary insurance coverage for multiple claims arising from product line failures
- *Pfizer Inc. v. Stryker Corp.*, 348 F.Supp. 2d 131 (S.D.N.Y. 2004). Granting partial summary judgment entitling client manufacturer that divested specialty prosthetics business to multimillion-dollar indemnification from acquiring entity for post-divestiture products liability claims (Of Counsel to Pfizer Inc)
- *Arnold v. Intervet, Inc.*, 305 F.Supp.2d 548 (D.Md. 2003). Agreeing with client manufacturer of animal vaccines that plaintiffs' tort claims were probably preempted but rejecting federal question jurisdiction because federal regulation extinguished, not created, causes of action

Publications and Seminars

- Author, ["Aiyo! Ruminations on Two Disputes that Weren't,"](#) Goodell DeVries Blog (December 12, 2023)
- Presenter, District of Columbia Defense Lawyers Association Annual Convention, "Strategies for Defending and Taking 30(b)(6) Depositions" (September 2023)
- Author, ["An Anomaly in Maryland Insurance Law,"](#) Goodell DeVries Blog (June 8, 2023); Republished in *The Defense Line*, Maryland Defense Counsel, Inc. (January 2024)
- Panelist, "Recent Notable Maryland Appellate Decisions," Litigation Appellate Program, Maryland State Bar Association (April 2022)
- Presenter, District of Columbia Defense Lawyers Association Annual Convention, "Gettin' Outta Dodge: Avenues for Escaping Plaintiffs' Selected Forum" (September 2021)
- Co-author of book chapter on "Impact of Insurance Policies on Product Litigation," in *Current Law, Strategies and Best Practices in Product Litigation*, Practical Law Institute (2009)

- Author, ["Twombly-Iqbal 'Plausibility' and Maryland's Pleading Requirements,"](#) Maryland Appellate Blog (April 2017)

Honors and Awards

- Baltimore Bar Foundation Fellows Award (2024)
- Chambers USA
 - Insurance (Maryland), Band 2 (2018-2025)
- Best Lawyers in America
 - Insurance Law (2024-2026)
 - Product Liability Litigation – Defendants (2020-2026)
- Maryland Super Lawyers
 - Insurance Coverage (2023-2025)
 - Construction Litigation (2022)