

CUSIMANO SYMPOSIUM

Creative Ways to Win, by Thinking Outside the Box

Featuring: Greg Cusimano, Edward Capozzi, Elise R. Sanguinetti and Matt Kita

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GREGORY S. CUSIMANO

Gregory S. Cusimano is an owner of the law firm of Cusimano, Roberts, Mills & Knowlton, LLC in Gadsden, Alabama, and Winning Works LLC a national trial consulting firm. He concentrates his practice on serious personal injury and death cases. He is a frequent speaker at continuing legal education programs throughout the country and on two occasions, he was invited and spoke as the plenary speaker at Alabama Bar Association's annual meeting. Mr. Cusimano was elected twice to serve on AAJ's Executive Committee and Budget Committee, and chaired the ATLA Blue Ribbon Committee to study juror bias. He, along with David Wenner, developed the Jury Bias Model™, which many say revolutionized how cases are tried today. Currently, he and Wenner are conducting research on juror attitudes related to Covid 19 and the political environment for the American Association for Justice Endowment.



EDWARD CAPOZZI

Edward Capozzi is certified by the New Jersey Supreme Court as a civil trial attorney and a partner at Brach Eichler, LLC in Roseland, NJ. He is the author of *The Domino Theory*, published by Trial Guides, and lectures nationally on trial techniques and cross-examination of defense medical experts. In 2014, Mr. Capozzi received the New Jersey Law Journal's Personal Injury Hall of Fame Award for receiving the largest verdict in the state in a products liability case and from 2012-2018 received at least one, and as many as three, of the state's top 20 verdicts or settlements, including the largest auto settlement in 2017. He is a Past President of the New Jersey Association for Justice (NJAJ), a Leader's Forum member of the American Association for Justice (AAJ), an advocate member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). Mr. Capozzi handles auto, trucking, elevator and other catastrophic personal injury cases only. He is married with four children and resides in Kinnelon, New Jersey.



ELISE R. SANGUINETTI

Elise's main focus of expertise is serious injury, wrongful death cases, civil appeals and legal malpractice. She exclusively represents plaintiffs in civil litigation, and holds an AV rating with Martindale-Hubbell and has been named a California Super Lawyer every year since becoming eligible. For the past five years Elise was named one of the Top 50 Women Lawyers in the Bay Area.

Elise graduated from the University of San Francisco School of Law where she earned her Juris Doctor (J.D.). She was admitted into the California state bar in 1997. When not in the courtroom, she is a frequent speaker at seminars and writes articles that are featured in various legal publications. Her copious amount of work has been recognized with numerous awards from various organizations.

Elise is the president of the American Association for Justice (AAJ), a past-president of the Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC), and a past president of the Alameda Contra Costa Trial Lawyers Association. She is a founding partner at Arias Sanguinetti Wang & Torrijos with offices in the San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Montreal.



MATT KITA

Matt Kita is a solo appellate practitioner with his home office in Dallas, Texas. Originally from Buffalo, New York, Matt graduated from Boston College with a bachelor's degree in political science, from the University of Maryland with a master's degree in education policy, and received his J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center. After law school he served as a law clerk to Justice Eva Guzman on Texas's Fourteenth Court of Appeals.

Matt's practice has focused primarily on authoring briefs and presenting oral argument in Texas and California's state and federal appellate courts. He also specializes in law-and-motion practice in the trial courts, prepares jury instructions, drafts proposed written opinions to support arbitration awards, and authors comprehensive mediation statements.

His civil practice is concentrated on representing victims of personal injuries, civil-rights violations, and reputational torts. He has argued and obtained favorable results for his clients in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth and Ninth Circuits, the Texas Supreme Court, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, several of Texas's intermediate appellate courts. He has also presented oral argument to the California Courts of Appeal in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

In 2012, Matt received the Dallas Trial Lawyers Association's "John Howie Award," which is given "for the courageous pursuit of justice in the face of adversity." Since 2014, he has been selected as a Texas Super Lawyer and as one of D Magazine's Best Lawyers in Dallas.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly for practicing plaintiff's appellate law in Texas, Matt is also a long-suffering fan of the Buffalo Bills.