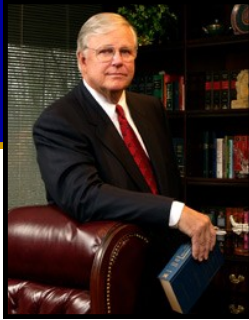


# “REACHING BACK, LIFTING UP”

2010

ATLANTA, GA



Thomas “Malone



Conference Co-Chairs



Ray Persons

**Thomas “Tommy” Malone** is the founder of Malone Law in Atlanta, Georgia. For more than 40 years he has litigated cases involving catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death throughout the State of Georgia. He has obtained a multitude of jury verdicts in excess of one million dollars. His record-setting \$45 million verdict changed the way managed care providers operate. Tommy is the current President of the American Board of Professional Liability Attorneys, the official certifying body sanctioned by the American Bar Association for certification of competency in handling professional negligence cases. After serving a term on the Board of Visitors for the Walter F. George School of Law, Mercer University, Tommy was elected to and currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees for Mercer University. He is the author of, *VOIR DIRE AND SUMMATION – THE LAW AND THE PRACTICE*, reprinted from a 1999 Second Edition, The Reprint Company (2006).

Tommy is a recognized pioneer in obtaining just awards for the seriously injured and loved ones of those who lost their lives at the hands of careless physicians, tractor trailer drivers, pilots, as well as the manufacturers of dangerous products.

Tommy has made guest appearances on the Today Show, Good Morning America, Maury Povich and Oprah; and he has been featured in *Southern Seasons Magazine*; named Top 100 Georgians by *Georgia Trend Magazine* (1999); and hailed as “A brilliant medical malpractice attorney,” by Ron Rosenbaum, of *THE NEW YORK OBSERVER*, June 25, 2001.

Some of Tommy’s Honors and Achievements include: Tradition of Excellence Award, *State Bar of Georgia*, 1999; Best Lawyers in America, *All Editions, 1989 to Present*; Georgia's Top 100 Super Lawyers, *2004 through 2008*; Pursuit of Justice Award, *American Bar Association/Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section*, 2004; Trial Lawyer of the Year, *Melvin M. Belli Society*, 2001; Warhorse Award, *Southern Trial Lawyers Association*, February 1996; *STLA has honored Tommy by naming an annual award after him--the Tommy Malone Great American Eagle Award*; Trial Lawyer of the Year, *American Board of Trial Advocacy, Georgia Chapter*, 1995.

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**W. Ray Persons** is a senior litigation partner at King & Spalding, where his practice is focused on product liability, mass torts and complex litigation. He has been lead counsel in over 65 jury trials, 90% of which went to verdict. During the past three years, Ray has tried cases before federal and state juries in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and Washington, D.C. He has written numerous articles and conducted lectures across the country on strategies for defending complex cases.

Ray is among the nation’s preeminent trial lawyers, as evidenced by his election to fellowship in the 600-member International Society of Barristers and the American College of Trial Lawyers, an organization whose membership is limited to 1% of the lawyers in any given state or province. Ray is listed in Best Lawyers in America, ranked nationally in Chambers USA -- America’s Leading Lawyers for Business, and was selected by his peers as one of the “Top 10 Super Lawyers in Georgia.”

In addition to Ray’s active trial practice, he is a leader of the bar. For several years, he taught the civil litigation segment of the Georgia bar orientation course for newly-admitted lawyers. In addition, he is a Past President of the Georgia Chapter of the American Board of Trial Attorneys and the Atlanta Bar Association, as well as past chair of the Litigation Section of the Atlanta Bar Association and the Evidence Study Committee for the State Bar of Georgia. At the request of the federal bench, he served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Federal Defender Program for the Northern District of Georgia and on multiple Judicial Selection Panels for U.S. Magistrate Judges. For ten years, he taught trial advocacy at Georgia State University College of Law and, for the past twenty years, has been a Master in the Lamar Inn of Court at Emory University Law School.

Ray received his undergraduate degree in 1975 from Armstrong State College and his law degree in 1978 from The Ohio State University. He was awarded the Armstrong Atlantic State University Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2000, the Moritz College of Law 2005 Distinguished Alumnus Award and The Ohio State University 2006 Distinguished Service Award.