

Dommond E. Lonnie

Member

Los Angeles

333 South Grand Avenue
Suite 2100
Los Angeles, CA 90071



T: 213-457-1712 dlonnie@dykema.com

Areas Of Practice

Litigation
Product Liability
Asbestos & Toxic Tort

Industries

Automotive Industry Group
Automotive, OEM & Supplier
Litigation
Automotive Product Liability
Litigation

Bar Admissions

California, 1989

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court, Central District
of California
U.S. District Court, Eastern District
of California
U.S. District Court, Northern
District of California
U.S. District Court, Southern
District of California
U.S. District Court, Eastern District
of Pennsylvania

Education

University of California, Los
Angeles, J.D.
University of California, Los
Angeles, B.A.

Dommond E. Lonnie is an experienced trial attorney who provides aggressive and innovative legal representation for his clients in product liability, class action, toxic tort, and commercial litigation. Mr. Lonnie has represented numerous domestic and foreign automobile/mobility manufacturers. An experienced litigator and legal strategist, Mr. Lonnie implements litigation and investigation plans and manages all aspects of discovery for successful resolution of lawsuits and claims. He has earned recognition in providing high level and cost effective representation of corporate clients. Mr. Lonnie is a member of Products, Class Actions & Professional Liability practice group and the director of Dykema's Automotive Industry Group, a multidisciplinary practice group focused on providing high quality legal service to automotive and mobility manufacturers.

Experience

- Class action litigation
- Product liability litigation
- Mass tort litigation

Significant Decisions

- *Phillips v. Daimler Chrysler Corporation*. Rollover roof crush case in San Bernardino County, involving a 36 year old advertising executive who was rendered quadriplegic during a rollover of her Jeep Grand Cherokee. Plaintiff's counsel asked the jury for one hundred million dollars. Mr. Lonnie served as second chair counsel in this hard fought product liability trial, which included a full week of evidentiary hearings. The jury returned a defense verdict after a 2 1/2 month trial.
- *Vaea v. General Motors*. Wrongful death case involving the rollover of a Pontiac APV minivan. The Vaea family claimed defects existed in a tire and axle/spindle, resulting in the rollover and partial ejection of the decedent. The defense established the axle/spindle and wheel were damaged as a result of the rollover, and that the decedent was not belted. The Jury returned a defense verdict.
- *Montes v. General Motors*. Plaintiff, a sitting Los Angeles Superior court judge, claimed a brake failure caused him to crash when exiting a highway off ramp. Mr. Lonnie and his co-counsel demonstrated that Judge Montes was driving his Saturn with the park brake partially engaged, compromising the effectiveness of the braking system. Defense verdict.

Dommond E. Lonnie (Cont.)

- *Trotta & Bang v. General Motors*. This case involved a claim of throttle and brake defects. The plaintiff claimed her Cadillac Deville accelerated out of control during a funeral procession. She also claimed a defective seat belt allowed her to be ejected from the vehicle. Dommond served as second chair trial counsel. The defendants obtained a non-suit judgment.

Seminars & Speeches

Emerging Issues in Motor Vehicle Product Liability Litigation—Distracted Driving
September 20, 2016

In-House Strategies For Simplifying Litigation, Panelist
April 16, 2016

Distracted Driving Caused Crashes: The Clash Between Personal Responsibility and Assigning Blame to an Application Provider or Vehicle Manufacturer
April 7, 2016

News

Dykema Recognized for Having One of the Strongest Automotive Practices in the Nation
May 29, 2019

Dommond Lonnie Offers Insight on Autonomous Vehicle Rules in *Law360* Automotive Midyear Report
June 7, 2018

Memberships & Involvement

- American Bar Association
- National Bar Association
- California State Bar
- Los Angeles County Bar Association
- Defense Research Institute, Product Liability Section
- Southern California Defense Counsel
- Langston Bar Association
- Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)

Awards & Recognition

Recipient of an AV[®] Preeminent[™] Rating by *Martindale-Hubbell*

Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* for Transport: Rail and Road – Litigation (2019)