

## Gina Arquilla DeBoni

Managing & Senior Partner  
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### Practice Areas

Environmental & Toxic Torts  
Mass Torts & Class Actions  
Premises Liability  
Product Liability  
Sexual Abuse & Hazing  
Transportation & Car Accidents  
Workplace Injury  
Wrongful Death

### Education & Certifications

- J.D., Chicago-Kent College of Law, 2002
- B.A., University of Iowa, 1997

### Jurisdictions Admitted to Practice

Northern District of Illinois, 2002  
Illinois, 2002

With a background in social work and the influence of a grandfather and uncle who were passionate lawyers, Gina Arquilla DeBoni naturally gravitated towards a career in law where she could put her strong people skills and passion for helping others to good use. After law school, Gina established a successful personal injury law firm with another partner. She left the practice after six years to join the prominent firm of Romanucci & Blandin, LLC in June 2010 as its managing attorney. In February of 2019, she was named managing partner of the firm.

As one of the only female managing partners in the state of Illinois, Gina is responsible for the overall management and quality assurance of the firm's legal and compliance services within client engagements. She also plays a critical role in advocating for the firm's clients who have suffered from traumatic personal injury, medical malpractice, police misconduct, hazing, sex trafficking, products and premises liability, nursing home negligence, business interruption, mass shootings and construction injury cases.

Whether it's in the office, courtroom or beyond, Gina is passionate about advocating for her clients and ensuring that real, institutional policy change can come from the firm's cases. In September of 2017, Gina advocated on Capitol Hill with a client who testified before the Senate for an amendment to Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act. Furthermore, Gina served as an expert on panels for the film *I am Jane Doe* and alongside Cindy McCain in public service announcements aimed at amending Section 230. On April 11, 2018, Gina was invited to the White House with her client, who stood next to the President in the Oval Office, to witness the monumental signing of the *Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex-Trafficking Act*. Since 2018, Gina has also played a significant role in advocating for Romanucci & Blandin's clients who have been impacted by carcinogenic emissions coming from the Sterigenics International facility in Willowbrook, Illinois without their knowledge for decades. This has included working closely with Illinois Senators Tammy Duckworth and Dick Durbin, as well as several Illinois Representatives who are working to create greater regulations and expand transparency as it pertains to the handling of the cancer-causing chemical, ethylene oxide.

Gina's work has landed her in several publications both nationally and internationally, including the front page of the Washington Post, the Chicago Tribune and The Times in London. Most recently, Gina was chosen for the 2020 Notable Women in Law list by *Crain's Chicago Business*.

Further, Gina's commitment to civic engagement and the community is reflected in her successful pursuit of public office. She was elected as a Trustee of the Village of Glenview, Illinois in 2021.

## Experience

\$4,500,000 Settlement - Trucking Accident

\$1,000,000 Settlement - Premises Liability

## Awards & Recognition

- *Top Leading Women Lawyer* by Law Bulletin Publishing Company, 2023
- Named as an *Illinois Super Lawyer* by Super Lawyers®, 2022-2023
- Notable Gen X Leaders in Accounting, Consulting and Law, *Crain's Chicago Business*, 2021
- Named one of *The Best Lawyers in America*® by U.S. News and World Report, 2020-2023
  
- Named a *Leading Lawyer* by Law Bulletin Publishing Company's Leading Lawyers Division, 2017-2023
- Recipient of the ISBA *Elmer Gertz Human Rights Award*, 2020
- Named to the Notable Women in Law list by *Crain's Chicago Business*, 2020
- Stevie Award - *Female Executive of the Year, Consumer Services for 11-2,500 employees*, 2020
- Recipient of the *Excellence in Leadership Award* from the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Dorothy Brown, 2017
- The American Institute of Personal Injury Attorneys, '*Ten Best Attorneys in Illinois*' for the *Client Satisfaction Award*, 2016-2017
  
- Named an *Emerging Lawyer* by Law Bulletin Publishing Company's Leading Lawyers Division, 2015-2016
- Selected to the *Illinois Rising Stars* list by Super Lawyers®, 2008, 2010-2015
  
- Illinois State Bar Association "*Young Lawyer of the Year*" Award, 2010
- The National Trial Lawyers Association: *Top 40 under 40*, Member

## Legal Activities & Leadership

- Advocated for legislative change on Capitol Hill, resulting in the passing bi-partisan amendment to the Communications Decency Act (SESTA/FOSTA). Invited to White House when the bill was signed into law, 2017-2018
  
- American Bar Association (ABA)
  - House of Delegates, 2006-2010
  - Membership Co-Chair for the ABA for the State of Illinois, 2008-2010
  - ABA Young Lawyers Division District 15 representative, 2008-2010
  
- Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA)
  - Past Member of the following: Board of Governors; General Assembly Scope and Correlation Committee; Young Lawyers Division (Chair, 2008-09); Board Liaison, Women and the Law Committee, Antitrust Committee, Business Advice and Financial Planning Committee and the Standing Committee on Legal Education, Admission and Competence.
  
- Justinian Society of Lawyers

- Women's Advisory Board for U.S. Senator Mark Kirk, Chair

## In the News

Highland Park parade shooting survivors find hope after tragedy  
*TODAY*, May 4, 2023

Biden calls for investigation of gun makers selling weapons to minors  
*Business News (biz.crastr.net)*, March 15, 2023

Durbin, Schneider announce firearm safe storage legislation alongside Highland Park shooting survivors  
*Chicago Tribune*, February 3, 2023

Romanucci & Blandin earns high national marks  
*Fra Noi*, January 16, 2023

Assault weapon sales now illegal in Illinois: 'This will save lives,' Pritzker says after signing bill into law  
*Chicago Sun-Times*, January 10, 2023

'A year unlike any other': Highland Park shooting victims continue to deal with grief, anger and pain  
*Daily Herald*, January 4, 2023

Pain remains fresh, push for change strong six months after Highland Park massacre  
*CBS Chicago*, January 4, 2023

Illinois is poised to pass an assault weapons ban. Will it withstand court challenges?  
*WGN9*, January 3, 2023

Survivors of mass shootings in Highland Park, East Garfield Park voice support for proposed assault weapon ban  
*Chicago Tribune*, December 13, 2022

Lawyers for Accused Highland Park Parade Shooter Ask for More Time to Review 'Volume' of Evidence  
*Chicago Sun-Times*, November 2, 2022

Highland Park shooting victims say they are fighting back as they cope day-by-day  
*WBEZ Chicago*, October 21, 2022

Mass Shooting Victims Are Suing Gun Manufacturers  
*Newsy*, October 17, 2022

Gun industry faces a new wave of lawsuits that could reshape how firearms are sold  
*CNBC*, October 6, 2022

Taking gun manufacturers to court can save lives  
*Chicago Sun-Times*, October 5, 2022

Highland Park shooting victims sue Smith & Wesson, gun shops, alleged shooter and his father over July 4 parade mass shooting  
*Chicago Tribune*, September 30, 2022

Smith & Wesson is accused of marketing guns to 'disturbed young men' in suit by July 4 victims  
*ABA Journal*, September 29, 2022

Highland Park Fourth of July massacre: First lawsuits filed, call attack 'predictable and preventable'  
*Chicago Sun-Times*, September 28, 2022

Highland Park Shooting Victims File Lawsuit Against Gun Maker and Others, Targeting their Marketing  
*NBC 5 Chicago*, September 28, 2022

Editorial: Lessons from the Sterigenics case. Why allow harmful emissions so close to homes and schools?  
*Chicago Tribune*, September 27, 2022

'We're all on board' Progress Pride Flag raised in Glenview for Pride Month 'The community has united'  
*Chicago Tribune*, June 3, 2022

Chicago man sentenced to 39 years for murder of sex-trafficked teen in Markham; 'you decided her life didn't matter,' mother says  
*Chicago Tribune*, April 13, 2022

Crain's Chicago Business 2021 Notable Gen X Leaders in Accounting, Consulting and Law  
*Crain's Chicago Business*, November 22, 2021

Romanucci firm shows support for Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure  
*Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, October 21, 2021

Shout Out: Gina Arquilla DeBoni, Glenview lawyer and Glenbrook North alumnae  
*Chicago Tribune*, April 18, 2019

## Blog Posts

The New Normal- Office Life Post Vaccine  
*Romanucci & Blandin Blog*, May 10, 2021

Romanucci & Blandin's Return to Office Model  
*Romanucci & Blandin Blog*, May 21, 2020

## Speaking Engagements

- Panelist, *Careers in Law*, University of Illinois Chicago College of Law, Chicago, IL, March 2023
- Panelist, *Women in Law*, UIC Women's Law Caucus and the Justinian Society of Lawyers, Chicago, IL, February 2023
- Panelist, *Advice for Young Female Attorneys*, Chicago Bar Association Alliance for Women, Chicago, IL, October 2021
- Panelist, *The Women of 321 North Clark - International Women's Day*, Chicago, IL, March 2020
- Panelist, "I am Jane Doe" Movie Premiere Discussion, Chicago, IL, May 2017