



## NEWS RELEASE

### MARTINDALE-HUBBELL RECOGNIZES LOCAL ATTORNEY

*Peers Bestow Highest Rating Upon Donald E. Caravona, Founder of Caravona & Czack, P.L.L.*

**CLEVELAND** –Donald E. Caravona, a founding partner of the Cleveland-based law firm Caravona & Czack, P.L.L., received an AV Rating from the prestigious Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Ratings System.

The Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Ratings System is based on the confidential opinions of members of the Bar and the Judiciary, including those who are rated and those who are not. Representatives from Martindale-Hubbell conduct personal interviews to discuss lawyers under review with other members of the Bar. A compilation of these opinions from various sources is necessary to form a consensus, and lawyers under review are often asked to provide professional references to assist with the process.

In addition, confidential questionnaires are sent to lawyers and judges in the same geographic location and/or area of practice as the lawyer being rated. Members of the Bar are instructed to assess their colleague's legal ability and general ethical standards.

"This honor means a great deal to me because it is based on a peer review ratings system," Caravona said. "For me to achieve such a prestigious rating, and to be ranked at the highest level of professional excellence and ethical conduct, also reflects greatly upon the outstanding team of attorneys we have assembled at Caravona & Czack, P.L.L."

There are two components to each Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Rating:

Legal Ability Ratings, which take into consideration the standard of professional ability in the area where the lawyer practices; the lawyer's expertise; and other professional qualifications. If a lawyer's practice is limited or specialized, Peer Review Ratings are based on performance in those specific fields of law. Legal Ability Ratings are: C - Good to High B - High to Very High A - Very High to Pre-eminent.

General Ethical Standards Rating, which denotes adherence to professional standards of conduct and ethics, reliability, diligence and other criteria relevant to the discharge of professional responsibilities. The General Recommendation Rating is: V - Very High. A lawyer will not receive a Legal Ability Rating unless he or she has been endorsed for a "V."

When both categories of Peer Review Ratings are confirmed, a lawyer receives a CV, BV or an AV Rating.

Caravona, the founding partner of Caravona & Czack, P.L.L., received his Juris Doctor degree from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, and his undergraduate degree from John Carroll University in 1968. A member of the *National Registry of Who's Who in America*, Caravona has practiced before all levels of courts, including several appearances before the Ohio Supreme Court.

Caravona's skills as a trial attorney have earned him recognition by the Million Dollar Advocates Forum, a society of a select number of lawyers in the United States, who have received jury verdicts in excess of \$1 million. Caravona has presented seminars in trial practice and procedure for the Cuyahoga Bar Association. He also has taught several classes to officers in the U.S. Army and National Guard regarding the legal responsibilities to civilians. His numerous successes include some of the largest verdicts obtained in Ohio. During the 1970s, Caravona was an integral part of the legal team that received Ohio's largest medical malpractice verdict.

In the 1980s, Caravona received one of the largest prejudgment interest awards against a major utility company in a personal injury case. In 1992, Caravona was lead counsel in a case in which the largest personal injury verdict against an Ohio Public Transportation System was rendered. In the mid 1990s, he was lead counsel in a personal injury case, which resulted in the highest verdict and/or settlement against the state of Ohio in the history of the Ohio Court of Claims.

Caravona has received some of the most significant verdicts and/or settlements in the area including:

- In 2009, Caravona won \$2.7 million and full workers compensation benefits for a career municipal sanitation worker who suffered a crushed pelvis and serious leg injury at a *Fortune 500* recycling plant.
- In 2005, he settled a case involving a 57-year-old railroad worker with a head injury for \$1.4 million.
- In 2002, he resolved a fatal trucking accident involving motor carriers from Nashville, Tenn., in the amount of \$5 million.
- Caravona obtained a successful result against a worldwide pharmaceutical company for a drug that caused a 39-year-old man to have an organ transplant, and the man was awarded \$5.5 million.
- Most recently, Caravona won a medical malpractice award of \$1.4 million for a woman with a rare neurological disease who was misdiagnosed by a radiologist.

#### **About Caravona & Czack, P.L.L.**

Caravona & Czack, P.L.L. focuses its practice on the areas of personal injury and wrongful death caused by medical malpractice, automobile, motorcycle, and trucking accidents, work-related incidents, and defective products. The firm has experienced trial attorneys who provide top quality legal representation to people seriously injured in an accident or by medical negligence.

#### **About Martindale-Hubbell**

Martindale-Hubbell is the authoritative resource for information on the worldwide legal profession. An AV rating indicates that a lawyer's peers rank him at the highest level of professional excellence.

**For additional information visit [www.caravona-czack.com](http://www.caravona-czack.com) or contact Caravona & Czack, P.L.L. at 216-592-8738 or toll free at 866-256-5726.**

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