



40 under
FORTY 2011

Hamilton Hill seems to be able to do anything. At 35, he's a partner at Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott. And his record proves he can handle a multi-million dollar claim for a plaintiff and turn around to tackle a multi-million – and even multi-billion dollar – action for a defendant.

A nominator – the General Counsel of a publicly-traded manufacturing firm – hired Hill in 2010 to defend a challenging personal injury action. The case involved a catastrophic injury, sympathetic plaintiffs, voluminous documents, numerous experts, experienced opposing counsel, complicated third party issues, and the possibility of punitive damages. The nominator needed lead counsel who was quick, tough, strategic, diplomatic, and a superb day-to-day practitioner. Hill showed he had all those qualities when, after his performance at an all-day mediation shortly before trial, the case settled for a fraction of the plaintiff's original demand. The nominator called Hill's work "A+ quality" and said that he fulfilled all of the necessary roles with "exceptional skill."

"Speaking to a room crowded with several attorneys, plaintiffs, insurance representatives, third parties, etc., Hamilton delivered a concise, on-target presentation that laid out powerful arguments for our defense. Most importantly, he did it in a style that did not alienate plaintiffs or their attorneys and, we believe, demonstrated to everyone his ability to connect with a jury at trial," said the nominator.

The nominator added that Hill also "demonstrated an interpersonal style in client relations that made it a pleasure to deal with him, even as we tackled thorny issues. It is rare to find a litigator like Hamilton who has the mettle to handle tough issues in difficult circumstances and do it in a way that does not alienate people."

In Hill's most recent case, he was part of the team that successfully defended United Technologies (UTC) against Rolls-Royce's \$3.7 billion patent infringement claim. Rolls-Royce alleged UTC infringed its patent with technology UTC uses in more than a dozen of its jet engines, including those on the Airbus A380, the world's largest airplane. Hill led UTC's defense on damages issues. UTC argued that Rolls-Royce's expert's damages report – and Rolls-Royce's entire \$3.7 billion damages claim – should be thrown out. The court agreed, stating that Rolls-Royce's damages claim "is based on misstatements of the law, a lack of sound evidence, and unsupported economic assumptions [Rolls-Royce's expert's] report reads more like a lawyer's brief advocating for the highest conceivable damages award rather than an expert trying to assist the trier of fact reach a reasonable damages figure. Because of this extensive overreaching, the entire report is undermined." The Court also granted UTC summary judgment of non-infringement.

Hill has also successfully represented plaintiffs at trial. In *Krippelz v. Ford Motor Company*, he represented the plaintiff in a patent infringement action involving automotive exterior mirror lighting systems. At trial, Ford's damages expert testified that the proper damages were under \$1 million. Hill attacked the expert's credibility during cross-examination, and the jury ultimately awarded his client \$23 million. The court increased the total award to \$56 million after finding willful infringement and including prejudgment interest. That case is currently on appeal.

Hill attributes his success to learning from the great attorneys at his firm, including legendary trial lawyers Phil Beck and Fred Bartlit. In 2006 he assisted Beck representing Merck in two of the first federal trials regarding its Vioxx pain reliever. And in 2004 he spent nearly five months on trial with Bartlit, successfully defending Forstmann Little from a billion-dollar claim brought by the State of Connecticut, and UTC in a suit brought by the Department of Justice. According to Bartlit "Hamilton is already a star – a true leader with the rare sense of what it takes to be a real trial lawyer in a world of litigators."

Hill did his undergraduate work at the University of Kansas. At KU he maintained a 4.0 GPA and was a quarterback on the football team. He earned his J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School, where he graduated with Honors and was a member of the *University of Chicago Law Review*.



HAMILTON H. HILL

age 35

law school University of Chicago Law School

area of practice Commercial Litigation

firm Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP
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Suite 300
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A+ quality.

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2019 Update

**THEN
&
NOW**

**2011:
LOOKING BACK**

U.S. Navy Seals find and kill terrorist leader Osama bin Laden in a secret raid.



Prince William and Kate Middleton got married at Westminster Abbey.



The "Harry Potter" movie franchise concludes with the release of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 2*.



Oprah Winfrey brings her Chicago-based talk show to an end.



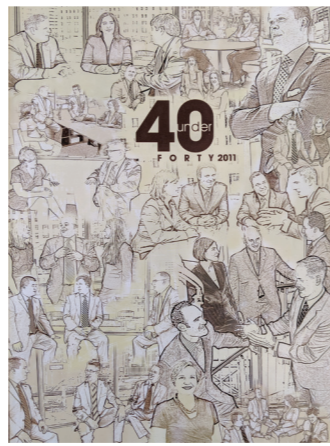
The Occupy Wall Street movement takes off in protest of economic inequality.



Apple founder Steve Jobs dies at age 56 after a battle with pancreatic cancer.



2011



Matt D. Basil

Now: Partner, Jenner & Block LLP
Then: Jenner & Block

Margaret Battersby Black

Now: Partner, Levin & Perconti
Then: Levin & Perconti

Beth A. Bauer

Now: Partner, HeplerBroom LLC
Then: HeplerBroom

Tracy A. Campbell

Now: Cynosure Risk Advisors LLC
Then: Schiff Hardin LLP

David T. Cellitti

Now: Partner, Quarles & Brady LLP
Then: Dykema LLC

Kristen Werries Collier

Now: Of counsel, Novack and Macey LLP
Then: Novak and Macey

Paul D. Collier

Now: Partner, Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Then: Kirkland & Ellis

Benjamin A. Crane

Now: Partner, Coplan & Crane Ltd.
Then: Coplan & Crane

John Cullis

Now: Partner, Reed Smith LLP
Then: Neal, Gerber Eisenberg LLP

Aimee E. Delaney

Now: Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP
Then: Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

Sean P. Driscoll

Now: Partner, Clifford Law Offices
Then: Clifford Law Offices

Timothy D. Elliott

Now: Rathje Woodward LLC
Then: Rathje Woodward

Laura B. Friedel

Now: Partner, Levenfeld Pearlstein LLC
Then: Levenfeld Pearlstein

Mitchell B. Friedman

Now: Partner, Morici Figlioli & Associates
Then: Morici, Figlioli & Associates

Claudia Gallo

Now: Partner, Berger Schatz
Then: Berger Schatz

Kristen A. Harris

Now: Principal at Harris Immigration Law LLC
Then: Rubman & Harris

Justin L. Heather

Now: Deputy director business development, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
Then: Korey Cotter Heather & Richardson

Scott W. Henry

Now: Managing director at Maron Marvel Bradley Anderson & Tardy LLC
Then: Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney Ltd.

Athena M. Herman

Now: Associate, Benassi & Benassi P.C.
Then: Benassi & Benassi

Hamilton H. Hill

Now: Partner, Bartlit Beck LLP
Then: Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP

Daniel A. Kirk

Now: Manager, Strategic Planning at Exelon Corp.
Then: Cook County State's Attorney's Office

Jessica G. Lingertat

Now: Partner, Gould & Ratner LLP
Then: Gould & Ratner LLP

Brian T. Monico

Now: Partner, Hale & Monico LLC
Then: Burke Wise Morrissey & Kaveny

James P. Moorhead

Now: Principal, Moorhead Law Group
Then: Thompson Coburn

Steven J. Pearlman

Now: Partner at Proskauer Rose LLP
Then: Seyfarth Shaw LLP

James E. Phelan

Now: Owner at Phelan Law Group
Then: Johnson & Bell Ltd.

Danielle A. Phillip

Now: Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of Michigan
Then: Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione

Thomas J. Posey

Now: Partner, Reed Smith LLP
Then: Franczek Radelet P.C.

Jacquelyn T. Pinnell Reed

Now: Assistant general counsel and managing attorney at CBRE Inc.
Then: Quarles & Brady LLP

Jamie Rubin

Now: Partner at InfoLawGroup LLP
Then: Information Law Group

Patrick A. Salvi II

Now: Chicago managing partner at Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard P.C.
Then: Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard

Derek J. Sarafa

Now: Deceased
Then: Winston & Strawn LLP

Devlin J. Schoop

Now: Attorney at Henderson Parks LLC
Then: Laner Muchin

Terrence J. Sheahan

Now: Equity Partner at Freeborn & Peters LLP
Then: Freeborn & Peters

Marc J. Siegel

Now: Partner at Siegel & Dolan Ltd.
Then: Caffarelli Seigel

Rosa Maria Silva

Now: Cook County Circuit Judge
Then: Cook County Public Defender

Brian C. Thomas

Now: Thomas Law
Then: Whiting Law Group

Karie Giganti Valentino

Now: Partner at Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP
Then: Anderson Rasor & Partners

Rebecca Wallenfelsz

Now: Partner, Chapman and Cutler LLP
Then: Chapman & Cutler

Gary Zhao

Now: Partner at SmithAmundsen LLC
Then: SmithAmundsen

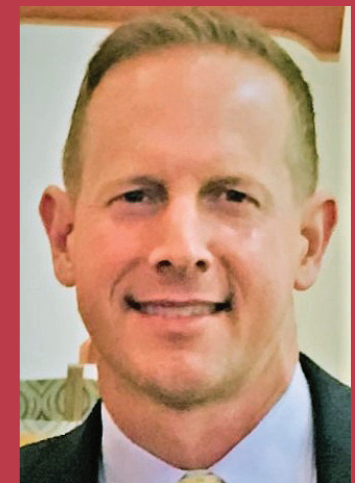
A smart pick

In fall 2000, Hamilton H. Hill was a third-year at the University of Chicago Law School when he made the decision to join Bartlit Beck LLP after graduating in 2001.

A couple months later, after the presidential race came down to a recount in Florida, Republican presidential nominee and then-Texas Gov. George W. Bush hired Bartlit Beck partners Fred H. Bartlit Jr. and Philip S. Beck to represent him in the ensuing courtroom battles, ultimately leading to Bush's victory in the race.

Looking back on his decision then, Hill said he's proud of his 25-year-old self for taking a chance on Bartlit Beck before the firm became a household name.

"I always hoped to be at a great place with great people where I'd get to try important, complicated cases," he said. "It's been such a great run for me in my 18 years and exceeded



Hamilton H. Hill
Class of 2011

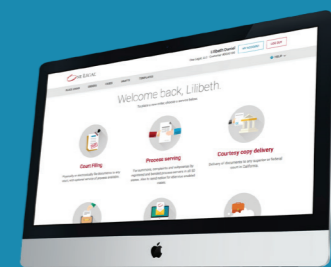
my highest hopes for how good it could be." Hill earned his undergraduate degree in 1998 from the University of Kansas where he played football and was selected to the first team of the 1997 Academic All-Big 12. Hill is married and has five-year-old daughter and a seven-month old son.



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