

**FORDNEY & COFFEY**  
**An Association of Professional Corporations**

OFFICE:

206 S. Webster  
P.O. Box 6340  
Saginaw, Michigan 48608-6340

Telephone: (989) 791-7060  
Fax: (989) 791-8009

TRIAL PRACTICE:

Medical and legal malpractice, hospital defense, personal injury defense, commercial litigation, general trial practice, labor employment, wrongful discharge, products liability.

## **J. MICHAEL FORDNEY**

**Personal:** Married, Lizabeth Ann Fordney  
Four Children - Joseph W. Fordney age 40, Sarah Dodd Bringard  
age 38, Samuel B. Fordney age 36 and Michael M. Fordney age 34

**Education:** U.S. Naval Academy (1957-1959)  
University of Notre Dame (B.B.A. 1962)  
Detroit College of Law (J.D. 1967)

**Member:** Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers (1992-present)

American Board of Trial Advocates, Diplomat Status (having tried  
more than 150 jury trials to verdict) (1988-present)

President, Michigan Chapter, American Board of Trial Advocates  
(1993-1995)

Michigan Defense Trial Counsel (1978-present)

President, Michigan Defense Trial Counsel (1983-1984)

Associate Member, Defense Research Institute (1992-2000)

National Board of Trial Advocacy, Admitted 1980

International Association of Defense Counsel (1982-present)

Defense Counsel Trial Academy Faculty, International Association  
of Defense Counsel 1996

Member Rules Committee for the United States  
District Court (1977-1987)

Michigan Supreme Court Committee to Oversee Activities of State  
Bar of Michigan (1984-1985)

Chairman, Negligence Council State Bar of Michigan  
1992

Tort Law Review Committee

Life Fellow, Michigan State Bar Foundation

American and County Bar Associations, State Bar of Michigan

Lawyer of the Year Award, Michigan Lawyers Weekly 2006

Member, Association of Naval Aviation

State Bar of Michigan, Standing Committee on Judicial Qualifications 2007

2008 Excellence in Defense Award - MDTC

**Admitted to  
practice before:**

U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western District of Michigan; U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, Cincinnati, Ohio; Michigan Supreme Court.

**Lectures and  
presentations:**

NITA Seminar - Cross-Examination Plaintiff's Expert 1998

State Bar of Michigan - Litigation Section, Cross-Examination of Expert Witness, Boyne Highlands, Michigan August, 1997

Masters in Trial - Cross-Examination Plaintiff's Expert 1997

International Association of Defense Counsel - Faculty for Defense Trial Academy, Boulder, Colorado 1996

Michigan Defense Trial Counsel Seminar - Jury Selection on Horrendous Damages and Opening Statement in Defense of Damage Only Cases December, 1995

Michigan Defense Trial Counsel Seminar - "How to pick a jury and the correct process of voir dire" 1994

American Board of Trial Advocates - Masters in Trial Seminar, Columbus, Ohio 1994

American Board of Trial Advocates - Masters in Trial Seminar, Dearborn, Michigan 1994

American College of Trial Lawyers - Presentation Re: Emil Gumpert Award University of Notre Dame Law School, New Orleans, Louisiana 1994

American Board of Trial Advocates - Masters in Trial Seminar, Dearborn, Michigan 1993

American Board of Trial Advocates - Masters in Trial Seminar,

Dearborn, Michigan 1991

**Lectures and presentations:**

Michigan Defense Trial Counsel - Trial Demonstration, Jury Selection and Cross-Examination of Plaintiff's Expert 1989

Michigan Academy of Family Physicians Risk Management - Medical Malpractice 1989

Institute of Continuing Legal Education - Michigan Rules of Evidence 1989

Michigan Defense Trial Counsel - Jury Selection and Voir Dire 1984

Institute of Continuing Legal Education - Wrongful Death 1982

**Employment History:**

Teacher, St. Francis deSalle High School 1964 - 1967  
Subjects - Government, History, English, Algebra and Religion  
Commencement Address 1998

Admitted to the State Bar of Michigan 1967

Assistant City Attorney, City of Saginaw, Saginaw, Michigan 06/1967 - 09/1969

Collison & Fordney, P.C., Civil Defense Litigation, Trial Firm 1969 - 1977

J. Michael Fordney, P.C., Civil Defense Litigation, Medical Malpractice 1977 - 1979

Fordney, Cady, Prine & Mastromarco, P.C., Civil Trial Litigation, Both Plaintiff and Defense 1979 - 1993

Fordney & Coffey, an Association of Professional Corporations engaged in Trial Litigation, Medical Malpractice Defense 1993 - present

Instructor, Professional Responsibility and Ethics during Discovery and in the Trial Courtroom at Michigan State University, College of Law on behalf of the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL) 2006 - 2007

**Adjunct Professor, MSU College of Law  
Civil Trial Advocacy I and II**

**2008 - present**

Mason v Atchison, Topeka & Sante Fe  
Class Action - Train Derailment

1989 - 1997

**Facilitator**

Industrial Coating v General Motors  
Trade Secrets

Miller v LLP Mortgage and Beal Bank

Austin v Bekum America Corporation