

## *Member Monday*



### *Meet Jim Coogan, Managing Partner & Trial Attorney*

#### **Who is Jim Coogan?**

I am native to the Chicagoland area. Both sides of my family were from the South side of Chicago and the Southwest Suburbs. I grew up in Oak Brook and always thought I would call the Chicago area my home. There's just something real and local and meaningful about this place that brings the whole country together to one center. I met my wife here and now we share our Park Ridge home with two spoiled dogs and a very spoiled cat (don't tell them that, though...).

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#### **Can you describe why you got into Law/personal injury law?**

Two reasons: I wanted to represent people who needed a voice in one of the most challenging forums in the world: an American courtroom; and I have always been interested in medicine. This job requires a working knowledge of medicine and appreciation for how the body and the medical system work. And I bring all that to Court to represent our injured clients.

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#### **What do you think is a good way to empower younger attorneys in the practice of law?**

First of all, you need to find your voice. Not someone else's. This requires that you listen to all the resources you can, learn from the best, absorb knowledge and styles and ideas. But then make them come out of your mouth. The only way your advocacy for your client will ever persuade anyone is if it sounds authentic. Audiences can tell. And they believe you when you know what you're talking about, and you mean it.

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#### **What are you most looking forward to this year – personally/professionally?**

After nearly three years since my last trial, I am looking forward to the next opportunity to present a case to a jury. But the right case going to the jury is not solely my decision, as we work to get clients the best resolution for their case. However, it has been too long, and I look forward to that unique energy and challenge which only happen in a jury trial.

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#### **Tell us something interesting about you**

I used to play the saxophone in high school and promised myself that I would do it again in 2022.