

AS SEEN IN
Forbes, Fortune & Entrepreneur

COLUMBUS LEADERS IN LAW

Brothers in Law

Trial attorneys James and Jonathan Tyack carry a reputation of integrity and tenacity in court while fiercely advocating for clients.

Attorneys James and Jonathan Tyack's legal education didn't begin in law school—it began when the brothers started talking.

"I was about 4 years old when my training on cross-examination began," James laughs. "I called my mom a bad name, so my dad sat me on the stairs and began questioning me. He didn't have to lay a finger on me to make me understand what I did **was** wrong."

As a renowned trial attorney, their father raised the brothers with the same determination for justice at home as he had for clients in court. When they drew on the walls as children or were out past curfew as teenagers, they were subject to a first-class lesson in trial techniques. It was in these lessons that they found their mentor.

"We learned from our father like Luke learned the force from Yoda," says James. "Our grandfather and father were both exceptional trial lawyers, so we quickly learned how to handle cases to help people live better lives."



ADVOCACY ON ALL SIDES

The brothers now lead Columbus' Tyack Law alongside attorneys Cecilia Hardy and Kelsey Kornblut and a diverse team of paralegals. The firm's cases are split between criminal defense, civil litigation, and personal injury, but they're best known as dedicated trial attorneys active in court rooms and in front of judges and juries nearly every day.

Guided by faith in the adversarial legal process, the brothers find themselves advocating for clients on different sides of the legal issues facing their clients. In one case, they might cross-examine a homicide detective who investigated a client in a criminal murder case, and later they may find themselves working with the same homicide detective on a different case while representing a grieving family pursuing money damages in a civil wrongful death claim. Regardless of the side they represent, practicing with integrity and justice is paramount.

"We understand all sides of a case and are better for it," says Jonathan. "For our criminal defendants and personal injury clients, we understand the evidence used to prove or fight certain claims. Unlike many personal injury firms that do not practice in the realm of criminal law, we can advise and support families on a wrongful death case by helping them understand the criminal legal process."

"We consider it a great honor to be entrusted with a client's constitutional right to a jury trial, whether it's in civil or criminal court," Jonathan continues.

IN DEFENSE OF CRIMINAL DEFENSE

"We're often asked how we can represent somebody that did something illegal," says James. "We often find ourselves representing good people who face criminal charges as a result of events that were not planned or intended. In those cases, we need to work with the client and the court system to determine what led to the criminal charge, and to mitigate the situation through treatment, and education if needed. If we can keep clients out of prison, we can help them keep their jobs, support their families, and move forward with their lives in a positive direction."

"Friends and neighbors often wonder what motivates us to represent people who violated the law," Jonathan adds. "The reality is that these cases are bigger than us. The legal system is adversarial in nature and built on a foundation that requires diligent, hardworking, and ethical lawyers on both sides of a case so judges and juries can determine the truth and achieve a fair verdict."

The adversarial process, they argue, is still the best way to achieve justice. It requires strong attorneys who are willing to fight hard and

zealously advocate for their clients to achieve an equitable outcome. But doing so doesn't mean abandoning professionalism and ethics for the sake of a client; it means treating all participants, including opposing parties and counsel, with equal respect.

"We've built a reputation for integrity, diligence, and skill in the courtroom that helps our clients get the best results," says James.

INTEGRITY IN TRIAL

Tyack Law attorneys build integrity with each case through their ongoing conduct, understanding that their credibility in court is critical to the successful presentation of their arguments on behalf of clients.

"When you interact with people honestly and fulfill your professional obligations to the best of your ability, you build integrity, which really helps our clients achieve the best results possible," says Jonathan.

Clients as well as judges quickly learn that the brothers have the best interests of their clients in mind. "While we pride ourselves on our strong advocacy down at the courthouse, we also take a lot of pride in counseling clients about the steps necessary to reach the best result in the current case, and to also make sure that they resolve their legal problems in a way that sets them up for success and happiness in the future," says James.

"Our dad always preached that somebody needs to stick up for the little guy, and that's what we pride ourselves on doing," says Jonathan. "If we look someone in the eye and tell them we'll do something, we're going to do it. Our father hammered into our heads the power of your word and that integrity is the most precious thing you have as an attorney. We protect that at all costs."

TYACKLAW

536 South High Street | Columbus, OH 43215 | 614-221-1342 | tyacklaw.com