



Jim Graves

*Sinas, Dramis, Larkin, Graves
& Waldman, P.C.
Personal Injury Law
jimgraves@sinasdramis.com*

After 48 years in private practice, I'm grateful and pleased to work alongside my partners, associates and staff each day at Sinas, Dramis, Larkin, Graves & Waldman, P.C., protecting the rights of injured people and family

members who lost loved ones due to wrongful death. I have every intention of reaching the half-century mark in my practice before turning more attention to other life activities.

My personal injury/wrongful death practice is not my only pursuit, however. Time serving on the Boards of the ICBA, ICBF and John Voelker Foundation, a non-profit, has been fulfilling in many ways. Also, my wife, Shirley and I enjoy traveling and spending time at our seasonal place in northern Michigan kayaking, leisure reading, socializing with family and friends, and fly fishing when we're able to get away. (I find taking a break from the demands of work helps to refocus and reenergize me). Chicago trips to visit our son, his wife and our grandson, and trips to Boulder, CO to see our other son are special times we look forward to and enjoy.

If able to offer any advice to young lawyers, I would encourage them to find a mentor early in their career. This, to me is very important and valuable. My earliest mentor was my father (a lawyer) who instilled in me the importance of dedication to one's chosen work, civility, and professionalism. During my early years in practice, John "Jack" Cote' and Charles "Jack" Willingham were mentors. I learned much from both that still guides me today. Secondly, I would encourage young lawyers to become active in the ICBA and other specialty bars. Young lawyers have much to offer and contribute to their local bar associations. Finally, and most importantly, I would suggest they set a goal to balance the demands of their practice with time for their family, and themselves. This is difficult to do at times, but ultimately, I think is what we should strive to achieve.

BRIEFS Committee:

Link to guidelines and application for Ingham County Bar Foundation can be accessed [here](#).

SUMMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS TO:

Ingham County Bar Foundation
Peter Sheldon
Dickinson Wright PLLC
215 S Washington Sq Ste 200
Lansing, MI 48933
email: psheldon@dickinsonwright.com

DEADLINE FOR GRANTS: August 31, 2020