

# Scanlon has a firm foothold in courtroom

By Richard McNamee  
Beacon Journal staff writer

Timothy F. Scanlon sometimes loses his footing while skiing, but the 49-year-old Akron lawyer seldom takes a fall in court.

His prowess as a trial lawyer has been recognized through his election to the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, an exclusive organization that is limited to the leading 500 trial lawyers in the United States. When he is inducted in March, he'll become only the ninth practicing Ohio lawyer to hold membership in the group, out of almost 25,000 practicing lawyers in the state.

"The only thing that would make this recognition more enjoyable, more meaningful, would be if Dad were here to know about it," Scanlon said, referring to his father, the late Charles F. Scanlon, who was widely regarded as the dean of Akron's trial lawyers before his death in October 1985.

"I suppose, as much as anything else, I wanted to be like my father—a good

lawyer and a good father," Scanlon said. "I guess that's what you'd call a role model." He noted that he also has three brothers who are lawyers.

Scanlon attended the same college and law school as his father, taking his undergraduate degree at Holy Cross College and securing his law degree from the University of Michigan in 27 months. Along the way, he earned the prestigious Order of the Coif.

Also like his father, Scanlon said he's made his family his first priority.

In the class prophecy for his eighth-grade class, it was predicted that he and his wife, Maureen, would marry and have nine children. They've now been married for 26 years and have four children. Their oldest daughter is in her final year of law school at Case Western Reserve. A second daughter is a graduate nursing student, and two sons are still college undergraduates.

With the children grown, Scanlon has more time for his favorite leisure activities — sports of all kinds. "Anything

that involves a ball, I like to do," he said, particularly tennis and golf.

When he and his wife took up skiing, he took time off for full-time classes, so they'd learn to do it correctly. That approach to a recreational pastime also is typical of Scanlon's approach to work, where thorough preparation is a hallmark.

"What goes on before you get to court is at least as important, if not more important, than what goes on in the courtroom," Scanlon said.

"I think that being prepared is really what it's about. No one in this line of work can work alone. I've been fortunate to be with good people during my career," he said.

"Trial work, and jury work in particular, is fascinating. In the pressure of that kind of situation, character shows. You find out what a person is really like," Scanlon said.

His colleagues know the character of Tim Scanlon.

## BioGraph: Timothy F. Scanlon



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