

### 3 Firms Are Product Liability All-Stars

By Adam Sege

*Law360, Washington (December 20, 2015, 10:14 PM ET)* -- Three law firms have consistently shown they can win big in significant product liability cases, each racking up multiple product liability practice group of the year wins in the past five years.

Law360's Product Liability All-Stars Bowman & Brooke LLP, Jones Day and King & Spalding LLP have each earned four nods for practice groups of the year since 2011 for their product liability work.

PRACTICE GROUPS OF THE YEAR					
<b>PRODUCT LIABILITY</b>					
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Bowman & Brooke	★		★	★	★
Jones Day		★	★	★	★
King & Spalding	★	★	★		★

#### Bowman & Brooke

Bowman & Brooke returned this year to Law360's list of Product Liability Groups of the Year, a title it has also won in 2013, 2012 and 2011.

The firm is serving as Honda Motor Co.'s lead and national counsel as the automaker navigates a massive recall of Takata air bags, with managing partner and 2015 Law360 Product Liability MVP Joel Smith playing a central role.

Smith is working on behalf of Honda to coordinate the Takata air bag recall, investigation and litigation. The air bags have been recalled worldwide because of a defect that car buyers claim is linked to the use of inexpensive but volatile ammonium nitrate that causes them to explode, particularly in humid conditions, sometimes spewing chemicals or spraying shrapnel at passengers.

Smith appears before courts, regulators, legislators and company officials, and ensures they and attorneys in every venue fully understand the facts and are on the same page.

In a separate major automotive case, Bowman & Brooke represented Toyota Motor Corp. in a 2013 bellwether trial over unintended acceleration.

The firm is also representing helmet maker Riddell Inc. in multidistrict litigation over concussions. In March, an Indiana federal judge had struck class allegations in a suit claiming Riddell sold football

helmets to colleges and universities that failed to protect NCAA athletes from head injuries, finding the class definition was overbroad.

The judge agreed with Riddell that the class sought by two former college football players contained too many individualized questions relating to differing state laws and medical issues that would make identifying members difficult under the current definition.

--Additional reporting by Emily Field, Brandon Lowrey, Nathan Hale, Bibeka Shrestha, Andrew Scurria, Greg Ryan, and Joe Van Acker. Editing by Edrienne Su.

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