HINKLE LAW FIRM LLC



MICHELLE R. STEWART

MEMBER

Ms. Stewart is a leader in the litigation practice group and is the Member in charge of the firm's Kansas City office. She has been in practice since 1999 and focuses her practice on litigation in employment, civil rights, public entity, and legal malpractice/ professional negligence matters.

OVERVIEW

MICHELLE R. STEWART
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Ms. Stewart is a leader in the litigation practice group and is the Member in charge of the firm's Kansas City office. She has been in practice since 1999 and focuses her practice on litigation in employment, civil rights, public entity, and legal malpractice/ professional negligence matters. She has significant trial experience in state and federal courts in both Kansas and Missouri. In addition, she acts as employment counsel for multiple businesses and governmental entities, advising them on matters ranging from compliance with federal and state employment statutes to creation of personnel handbooks.

Michelle also argues cases in front of both the Kansas and Missouri Court of Appeals as well as in the Eighth and Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. In 2003, she was named one of the up and coming lawyers in Missouri Lawyers Weekly. Michelle was included in the elite group of Kansas and Missouri Rising Stars in employment litigation in 2008, 2009 and 2011 and has been named a Super Lawyer consistently since 2012. In 2010, Michelle received the David A. Dixon Appellate Advocacy Award in recognition of outstanding achievement in appellate practice.

Michelle is a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers. The College is an invitation-only fellowship of trial lawyers from the United States and Canada who have demonstrated the very highest standards of trial advocacy, ethical conduct, integrity, professionalism, and collegiality. Michelle is also a member of the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel and serves on the Membership Committee as State Liaison for Kansas. Membership in FDCC is limited to 1400 members world-wide and candidates go through a selective nominating process.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Appellate Practice
- Civil Litigation
- Commercial & Complex Litigation
- Construction Law
- Employment Law & Litigation
- Food, Beverage & Hospitality
- Insurance Defense
- Personal Injury Litigation
- Product Liability
- Professional Negligence & Licensure Litigation

EDUCATION

- Washburn University School of Law, J.D, 1999
  - — Dean's Honors
  - — Order of Barristers
  - — Moot Court Council
- Kansas State University, B.A., History, 1996

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Kansas State Bar
- Missouri State Bar
- United States District Court, District of ›Kansas
- United States District Court, District of ›Western Missouri
- United States District Court, District of ›Eastern Missouri
- United States Court of Appeals, 8th Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals, 10th Circuit

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MICHELLE R. STEWART
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She is also an Associate Member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). Membership in ABOTA is by invitation only and achieving the rank of Associate requires twenty (20) jury trials as lead counsel. Michelle is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel Of America. The LCA is a trial lawyer honorary society composed of less than one-half of one percent of American lawyers. Fellowship in the LCA is highly selective and by invitation only. Fellows are selected based upon excellence and accomplishment in litigation, both at the trial and appellate levels, and superior ethical reputation.

AFFILIATIONS

- American College of Trial Lawyers
  — Member
- American Board of Trial Advocates
  — Member
- Best Lawyers
  — 2012 - Present (Civil Rights Law, Employment law - Individuals, Litigation - Labor and Employment)
- Best Lawyers 'Lawyer of the Year'
  — 2025 (Litigation - Labor and Employment)
- Chambers & Partners
  — 2025 (Labor & Employment:- Band 3)
  — 2026 (Labor & Employment:- Band)
- David A. Dixon Appellate Advocacy Award
  — Missouri Bar Foundation, 2010
- Defense Research Institute
- Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel
  — Vice-Chair Employment Practices and Workplace Liability
- Kansas Bar Association
- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association
- Litigation Counsel of America
- Missouri Bar Association
- Missouri and Kansas Super Lawyers
  — 2013 - Present
- Missouri and Kansas Super Lawyers - Rising Star
  — 2008, 2009, & 2011

SIGNIFICANT CASES

- Glaser ex. rel. Glaser v. Emporia Unified School District No. 253, 271 Kan. 178; 21 P.3d 573 (2001).
- John a Brough, et. al. v. Ort Tool and Die Corporation, Et. al., 149 S.W.3d 493 (Mo. App. W.D. 2004).
- Burgett v. Hoyt, 174 S.W.3d 555 (Mo.App. W.D. 2005).
- Dunn v. First Nat. Bank of Olathe, 111 P.3d 1076 (Kan.App 2005).

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REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

- Clay County, Missouri
- MDCFC Operations, Inc.
- Travelers Insurance Company
- United Fire & Casualty Insurance Company
- West Bend Insurance Company
- One Beacon Insurance Company
- Hanover Insurance Company
- General Star Insurance Company
- Girard National Bank

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