

Up & Coming Attorneys & Unsung Legal Heroes

Aram Desteian BASSFORD REMELE

After seven years working in politics, Aram Desteian has carved out a second successful career as an attorney. He joined Bassford Remele in May 2013 as a law clerk, becoming an associate attorney after graduating magna cum laude from William Mitchell College of Law.

“I went back to school without much intention of practicing,” he recalled. “I thought I would use a law degree maybe for lobbying. But I was exposed to litigation and liked it.”

At Bassford, Desteian represents businesses in complex commercial litigation, and he also counsels and defends other lawyers against a variety of professional liability claims.

He was a key member of the plaintiffs’ team in the Syngenta Litigation, a multijurisdictional complex litigation involving more than 68,000 claims in Minnesota state court, as well as numerous claims venued in the U.S. District Courts for the Districts of Kansas and Illinois. Partner Lew Remele was the lead counsel, but Desteian drafted the initial complaint.

All the Syngenta cases were resolved as part of a global resolution resulting in a settlement amount of about \$1.5 billion.

“We had a great team both at Bassford and at other firms,” he said. “I lived that case every day for six years.”

In his role as a professional liability attorney, Desteian helps other lawyers prevent and deal with lawsuits, investigations, board proceedings, and hearings involving legal ethics and legal malpractice.

“Aram is one of the best young lawyers I have worked with in my 46 years of practice,” said Remele. “He is very smart, has wonderful judgment, is an excellent writer and analyst, is a hard worker, and has great legal acumen and instincts.”

— Dan Heilman



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