



BASSFORD REMELE

Steven M. Sitek
SHAREHOLDER



ssitek@bassford.com
T 612.376.1662
F 612.746.1262

PRACTICE GROUPS

Commercial Litigation
General Liability
Trust and Estates Litigation

INDUSTRY GROUPS

Construction

OVERVIEW

Mr. Sitek focuses his practice in the areas of commercial litigation, trust and estates litigation, and general liability, bringing more than 16 years of litigation and trial experience to his clients.

With extensive state, federal, and other court experience, Mr. Sitek regularly represents businesses and individuals in a variety of commercial and estate disputes, including general business and litigation matters, construction and real estate matters, trust disputes, and will contests. He also represents businesses, including product manufacturers and suppliers, in product liability and personal injury cases.

Mr. Sitek serves as vice president on the Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association Board of Directors and is the Board of Directors liaison for the Construction Section.

EDUCATION & ADMISSIONS

Education

Hamline University School of Law, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 1999
University of St. Thomas, B.A., 1996

Bar Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota
- U.S. District Court, District of Nebraska
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Arkansas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Arkansas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Wisconsin
- U.S. Court of Federal Claims
- Minnesota
- Washington
- North Dakota
- South Dakota
- Wisconsin

EXPERIENCE

Representative Cases

- Obtained appellate victory on behalf of clients seeking indemnification and advancement of attorney fees from LLC; *CorVascular Diagnostics, LLC v. CorVascular MI, LLC, et. al.*, 2017 Minn. App. Unpub. LEXIS 734 (Minn. Ct. App. Aug. 28, 2017).
- Successfully defended hotel architect accused of providing negligent design services; *Dakota Hotel Ventures, LLC v. David Baumann-Architect, Ltd.*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 26497 (D.S.D. 2016).
- Obtained favorable result for engineering firm accused of providing negligent design services related to a wastewater system; *Arnegard Holdings, LLC v. Tri-State Consulting Eng'rs, Inc.*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3656 (D.N.D. Jan. 13, 2014).
- Obtained defense verdict for tankless water heater manufacturer accused of defective design in product liability lawsuit; *State Farm Fire & Casualty Co. v. Bosch Thermotechnology Corp.*, No. 11CV1160 (Dane Cty. Cir. Ct. Wis. 2012).

Steven M. Sitek
SHAREHOLDER

continued

- Obtained victory at trial for an airplane engine manufacturer in dispute regarding defective engine component parts; *Kurt Manufacturing Co. Inc. & Lycoming Engines v. Ross Casting & Innovation, LLC.*, No. 27CV-06-29067 (Hennepin Cty. Minn. 2008).
- Successfully defended an individual alleged to be responsible for indemnifying a business claimed to be responsible for carbon monoxide poisoning of several family members aboard a houseboat; *Yang v. Voyagaire Houseboats, Inc.*, 701 N.W.2d 783 (Minn. 2005).

Publications

- *Remodeling the Relationship: Modifying the Tripartite Relationship between Insurer, Insured, and the Insured's Attorney*, co-author, International Association of Defense Counsel, Construction Law and Litigation Committee Newsletter, January 2013
- *Claims for Contribution and Indemnity after Weston v. McWilliams: Where do the Claims Start and Where do the Claims Stop?*, co-author, Minnesota Defense, Fall 2006
- *Public Policy Considerations for Exculpatory and Indemnification Clauses*, co-author, 32 Wm. Mitchell L. Rev 1315 (2006)

Seminars

- *Legal Update: Payment of Fiduciary Attorneys' Fees*, presenter, Minnesota Lawyers Mutual, May 2, 2018
- *Claims Handling for Minnesota Cases*, presenter, private insurance company, September 26, 2017
- *Trust and Estate Litigation*, presenter, Minnesota Lawyers Mutual, July 18, 2017
- *Litigating Under Minnesota's Uniform Trust Code*, presenter, U.S. Bank, January 27, 2016
- *Settling Trust and Estate Disputes Without Litigation*, presenter, National Business Institute, January 21, 2016
- *Recent Cases*, presenter, Minnesota State Bar Association Probate and Trust Section Annual Meeting, December 4, 2015
- *Minnesota's New Uniform Trust Code*, presenter, Minnesota CLE, November 2015
- *Mom Always Liked You Best – Trust and Estate Litigation and the New Minnesota UTC*, presenter, Bremer Wealth Management, November 9, 2015
- *Litigating Under Minnesota's Uniform Trust Code*, presenter, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, October 28, 2015
- *Updates, Reallocation, Experts, Duty to Defend and Collateral Sources*, presenter, private insurance company, November 11, 2014
- *Claims Handling for Minnesota Cases: Directors and Officers*, presenter, private insurance company, March 18, 2014
- *Claims Handling for Minnesota Cases: Tenders of Defense, Indemnification, and Additional Insured Status*, presenter, private insurance company, November 5, 2013
- *Claims Handling for Minnesota Cases: First-Party Bad Faith, Premises Liability, Product Liability and No-Fault Arbitration*, presenter, private insurance company, March 7, 2013
- *Home Warranty Statute Changes: What Contractors Need to Know*, presenter, Bassford Remele public seminar, July 27, 2011

Steven M. Sitek

SHAREHOLDER

continued

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC

Bar Associations

- Minnesota State Bar Association
 - Probate and Trust Law Section
 - Litigation Committee Section
 - Civil Litigation Section
- South Dakota State Bar Association
- State Bar Association of North Dakota
- State Bar of Wisconsin
- Washington State Bar Association
- Hennepin County Bar Association

Professional Associations

- Defense Research Institute
- International Association of Defense Counsel
 - Business Litigation Committee, Vice Chair of Communications, 2014-present
- Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association
 - President, 2018-present
 - Vice President, 2017-2018
 - Treasurer, 2016-2017
 - Secretary, 2015-2016
 - Board of Directors, 2010-present
 - Construction Section; Board Liaison, 2017-present; Chair, 2006-2009
 - Product Liability Section, Board Liaison, 2012-2017

Civic Involvement

- Prodeo Academy, tutor
- St. Paul Capitals, Hockey Coach
- Highland Little League, Baseball Coach

ACCOLADES

Honors & Awards

- Minnesota Super Lawyers list, *Super Lawyers*, 2013-present
- Minnesota Rising Stars list, *Super Lawyers*, 2006-2012
- Up and Coming Attorney, *Minnesota Lawyer*, 2010