



BASSFORD REMELE

Uzodima Franklin Aba-Onu

SHAREHOLDER



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PRACTICE GROUPS

Employment Litigation/Advice
General Liability
Professional Liability/
Claim Prevention

INDUSTRY GROUPS

Health Care
Law Firms and Lawyers

OVERVIEW

Mr. Aba-Onu is a litigator who focuses his practice in employment, professional liability, and general liability matters.

In his employment practice, Mr. Aba-Onu regularly advises and represents employers in a spectrum of concerns, including discrimination and harassment complaints, non-competes and restrictive covenants, and wage and hour claims. He also represents a variety of professionals, including attorneys, physicians, nurses, and other health care providers in professional malpractice and negligence actions. In the general liability arena, he often defends clients in matters involving personal injury and premise liability claims.

Mr. Aba-Onu graduated *cum laude* from the University of St. Thomas School of Law. He serves as an adjunct professor at Mitchell Hamline School of Law, having formerly served as an adjunct professor at Hamline University. Prior to joining Bassford Remele, he was an Assistant Attorney General, gaining knowledge on mental health, licensing, and other health care-related matters, as well as the Minnesota Implied Consent Law.

EDUCATION & ADMISSIONS

Education

University of St. Thomas School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2010
- President's Scholarship, 2007-2010
DePauw University, B.A., 2007

Bar Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota
- Minnesota

EXPERIENCE

Representative Cases

- Part of team that successfully defended the Minneapolis Public Schools against Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Minnesota Human Rights Act discrimination claims, and claims of reprisal under the Minnesota Human Rights Act by obtaining an order dismissing the plaintiff's claims; *Edmonds v. Minneapolis Pub. Sch.*, No. CV 16-3340 (DWF/DTS), 2018 WL 1866092 (D. Minn. Feb. 14, 2018), *report and recommendation adopted sub nom. Edmonds v. Minneapolis Pub. Sch. Special Sch. Dist. 1*, No. CV 16-3340 (DWF/DTS), 2018 WL 1866036 (D. Minn. Apr. 18, 2018).
- Part of team that successfully defended the City of St. Cloud and its officers against 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and other state law claims by obtaining an order dismissing plaintiff's claims; *Gottwalt v. Oxton*, No. CV 16-1098 (JRT/LIB), 2017 WL 1173595 (D. Minn. Mar. 28, 2017).
- Part of team that successfully defended hospital, doctors, and nurses against wrongful death claim. Obtained order dismissing plaintiffs' claims; *Bergfalk v. Univ. of Minn. Med. Ctr., Fairview Health Servs., et al.*, No. 27-CV-15-8445 (D. Minn. Oct. 26, 2016).
- Part of team that successfully defended law firm against due process, 42 U.S.C. § 1983, 42 U.S.C. §§ 241, 242, and 245, and various state law claims by obtaining an order dismissing plaintiff's claims; *Hudson v. Wilford, Geske & Cook, P.A.*, 2016 WL 3383268 (D. Minn. June 17, 2016).

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- Part of team that successfully defended law firm against FDCPA claims by obtaining an order dismissing plaintiff's claims; *Bredlow v. CitiMortgage, Inc.*, 2016 WL 310728 (D. Minn. Jan. 26, 2016).
- Part of team that successfully defended lender against Fair Credit Reporting Act claims by obtaining an order dismissing plaintiff's claims; *Hutar v. Capital One Fin. Corp.*, 2015 WL 4937347 (D. Minn. Aug. 12, 2015).

Publications

- *Intra-Firm Privilege Five Years Later*, co-author, Professional Liability Defense Quarterly, Winter 2018
- *Special Verdict Forms and Jury Instructions*, co-author, Minnesota Motor Vehicle Accident Deskbook, Minnesota State Bar Association Continuing Legal Education, Ch. 19, 2016-2018
- *Drone Regulations at Last!*, co-author, Bench & Bar of Minnesota, September 2016
<http://mmbenchbar.com/2016/09/drone-regulations-at-last/>
- *They're Coming! The Drones, That Is - And The FAA Regulations Governing Their Use*, co-author, Bench & Bar of Minnesota, January 2016
<https://www.bassford.com/uploads/announcements/Camarotto-Aba-Onu-Drones-2016.pdf>
- *Pipeline to Success: A Systematic Solution to the Diversity Gap*, co-author, Diversity Insider, Vol. 7, Issue 1, 2015, Defense Research Institute
<http://portal.criticalimpact.com/newsletter/newslettershow5.cfm?contentonly=1&content=24183&id=2930>

Seminars

- *Employee Hiring, Firing and Discipline: An Essential Legal Guide*, presenter, National Business Institute webcast, March 3, 2017
- *Finally, Drone Regulations are Here! Part 107: Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems*, co-presenter, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, September 27, 2016
- *They're Coming! The Drones, That Is - and the FAA Regulations Governing their Use*, co-presenter, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, May 11, 2016
- *Self-Marketing and Branding: Opening the Door for Diverse Attorneys to Enhance their Professional Image*, presenter, American Bar Association Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division Spring Conference, May 17, 2012

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC

Bar Associations

- Federal Bar Association
 - Minnesota Chapter, Board of Directors, 2018-present
 - Minnesota Chapter, Diversity Committee
- American Bar Association
 - Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division
 - Diversity Committee
 - Awards Committee
 - Legal Educators Committee, Vice Chair, 2014
 - Pro Bono and Public Service Committee, 2014
 - Workers Compensation Committee, Vice Chair, 2011-2012
 - Diversity Fellow, 2011-2012

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- Minnesota State Bar Association
- Hennepin County Bar Association

Professional Associations

- Defense Research Institute
- Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers
 - Treasurer, 2018-present
- Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association

Civic Involvement

- Volunteer Lawyers Network

ACCOLADES

Honors & Awards

- Minnesota Rising Stars List, *Super Lawyers*, 2017-present