



KARRIE J. CLINKINBEARD

PARTNER

Kansas City, MO

816.472.3175

kclinkinbeard@atllp.com



Karrie Clinkinbeard is an experienced litigator with substantial trial experience across the Midwest including Oklahoma, Texas and Nebraska. Recognized by her peers as a Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyer and Rising Star for 14 consecutive years, Karrie's numerous successes include her role as co-lead counsel in a furnace explosion case that generated the largest 2014 defense verdict in Missouri.

A member of Armstrong Teasdale's Litigation practice group for more than 20 years, Karrie focuses on fire, explosion and electrocution litigation, toxic torts and catastrophic incidents, product liability, contract disputes, personal injury and life, health and disability matters. She has tried numerous jury cases to verdict in state and federal courts and also achieves successful outcomes for her clients early in litigation through aggressive, targeted pretrial practice.

Karrie takes an active mentoring role in the firm and is very involved in the Greater Kansas City community. Karrie has served on the firm's Executive Committee and Compensation Committee and previously led the Kansas City office's Women's Inclusion Network (WIN). She has also served on the Hiring and Nominating Committees, and for five years was managing attorney of the firm's Kansas City, Missouri, office.

EDUCATION

- University of Kansas School of Law (J.D., 1999)
- Washburn University (B.A., *summa cum laude*, 1996)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Kansas Bar Association
- The Missouri Bar
- Armstrong Teasdale Executive Committee (Past Member), Compensation Committee (Past Member), Women's Inclusion Network Committee (Past Member)
- Kansas City Area Development Council (Past Member, Board of Directors)
- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association (Past President, Young Lawyers Section; Past Chairman, Public Service Committee; Recipient, President's Award)
- Johnson County Bar Association
- Johnson County Bar Foundation (Past President)

SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Consumer Products and Services
Energy and Utilities
Fire and Electrical Liability Litigation
Insurance Coverage Litigation Litigation
Mass Tort and Catastrophic Loss
Product Liability

ADMISSIONS

Missouri
Kansas
Oklahoma
U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri
U.S. District Court, District of Kansas
U.S. District Court, District of Nebraska
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Oklahoma

- Defense Research Institute
- International Association of Arson Investigators
- National Association of Fire Investigators
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
- National Fire Academy Alumni Association and Instructor
- NFPA 921 Technical Committee Member
- NFPA 1033 Technical Committee Member
- National Association of Professional Women
- Leadership Kansas Program (Class of 2015)

CHARITABLE AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- Leadership Kansas State Program Chair (2022)
- Leadership Kansas KC Metro Session (2017 Chair; 2018 Co-Chair)
- American Lung Association Fight for Air Climb
- American Cancer Society "Relay for Life"

ACCOLADES

- The Best Lawyers in America®, Product Liability Litigation - Defendants (2025)
- Missouri Lawyers Weekly 2023 Power List for Business Defense (2021-2024)
- "50 Kansans You Should Know", Ingram's Magazine (2023)
- Missouri Lawyers Weekly Women's Justice Awards, Litigation Practitioner (2022)
- Benchmark Litigation, Local Litigation Star, Products Liability (2020-present)
- Rainmaker, Ingram's Magazine (2019)
- Women Who Mean Business, *Kansas City Business Journal* (2019)
- NextGen Leader, *Kansas City Business Journal* (2017)
- Leadership Kansas Program, Class of 2015
- Won Largest 2014 Defense Verdict in Missouri, *Missouri Lawyers Weekly*
- Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator
- Department of Homeland Security, National Fire Academy (Emmitsburg, Md.) – Certified Instructor for fire litigation analysis and investigation and courtroom testimony courses
- [Missouri/Kansas Super Lawyers](#)® (2016-present); *Super Lawyers*®, Rising Star (2009-2015)
- Named an "Up and Coming Lawyer" by *Missouri Lawyers Weekly* (2008)

EXPERIENCE

Jury Verdict Affirmed in Slip-and-Fall Case

The Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed a verdict favorable for our client following a trial in which the jury found the plaintiff 94% at fault for a slip-and-fall following a major winter weather event. The Eighth Circuit affirmed the trial court's ruling excluding portions of the plaintiff's deposition designations, which sought to introduce the cost of the plaintiff's future medical care and information regarding his future surgeries.

Defense of Convenience Store Client in Personal Injury Case

Represented a convenience store client in a jury trial before the Western District of Missouri in a case involving a slip and fall at a fueling station following a major winter storm. The plaintiff asked the jury for damages related to medical expenses, past pain and suffering, and future pain and suffering. Following a four-day trial, the jury assigned 94% of the fault to the plaintiff and only 6% to the client.

Dismissal in Consumer Class Action Lawsuit for Sporting Goods Retailer

Secured the dismissal of a consumer protection and class action lawsuit against a major sporting goods and outdoor equipment retailer filed in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri. The matter specifically involved claims of alleged violation of the Missouri Merchandising Practices Act, unjust enrichment, and violation of consumer protection laws in 21 other states. The plaintiff sought to represent a nationwide class of customers seeking millions of dollars in damages for alleged violations of various states consumer protection statutes. The court granted the client's motion to dismiss, and the plaintiff did not appeal or seek leave to amend.

Defense Verdict in Premises Liability Action

Defended client in a premises liability action where the plaintiff claims she was injured after tripping in the client's parking lot. A jury trial was held in Jackson County, Missouri. Jury returned a complete defense verdict.

Largest 2014 Missouri Defense Verdict

Won the largest 2014 defense verdict in Missouri on behalf of a gas company in a \$30 million furnace explosion case. The ranking was reported by Missouri Lawyers Weekly.