



KARRIE J. CLINKINBEARD

PARTNER

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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 10 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 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 serves on the firm's Executive Committee, 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 (Member), Compensation Committee (Member), Women's Inclusion Network Committee (Member)
- Kansas City Area Development Council (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 (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

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

ACCOLADES

- 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.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

June 2020

Experts Beware: Ignoring the Scientific Method Can Be Hazardous to Your Testimony - An Update on the Law

National Association of Fire Investigators Newsletter

September 24, 2018

Experts Beware: Ignoring the Scientific Method Can Be Hazardous to Your Testimony

Selected Abstract, International Symposium on Fire Investigation Science and Technology

March 28, 2017

More Rigorous Standards for Admissibility of Expert Witness Testimony in Missouri

July 11, 2016

"The Rewards of Letting Your Law Firm In": Partner Chris LaRose Writes Article for ACC St. Louis Newsletter

ACC St. Louis Newsletter

2014

Deposition Testimony: Don't Fall Prey to Lawyer Tricks

Selected Abstract, International Symposium on Fire Investigation Science and

Technology

2014, 2016

**Experts Beware: Ignoring the Scientific Method Can Be Hazardous to Your Testimony
—An Update on the Law**

Selected Abstract, International Symposium on Fire Investigation Science and
Technology

2009

**Kansas chapters, Misrepresentation in the Life, Health and Disability Insurance
Application Process: A National Survey**

ABA

EVENTS

February 5, 2020

The Secrets of Qualifying as a Fire Investigation Expert and Surviving Exclusion
International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) Kansas Chapter

June 2, 2019

Fire investigation and testimony training
Missouri Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators

March 8, 2019

Fire investigation and testimony training
Greene County Arson Task Force Seminar

July 2018

Fire investigation and testimony training
Arizona Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators

June 14, 2018

Cessation of Service: Risks and Liabilities That Start When Service Ends
AEGIS Insurance Services, Inc. 2018 Claims Roundtable

June 2018

The New Settlement Agreement – How and Why It's Changed Since Law School
KCMBA's 31st Annual Corporate House Counsel Institute

June 2018

Fire investigation and testimony training
Missouri Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators

May 2018

Fire investigation and testimony training
Michigan Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators

April 19, 2018

Promotion and Compensation: A Woman's Perspective

Association of Women Lawyers for Greater Kansas City 2018 Women's Trial Institute

April 9, 2018

Critical Issues in the Face of Catastrophic Events

Armstrong Teasdale LLP

March 12, 2018

The Secrets of Qualifying as a Fire Investigation Expert

National Association of Fire Investigators

October 6, 2017

Leading the Way to First Fridays

Armstrong Teasdale LLP

April 5, 2016

Women & Wine Event

Armstrong Teasdale LLP

March 2015

Testifying Tips and Lawyer Tricks

Arizona Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators

November 2014

Pitfalls of Expert Testimony

New York Division of Homeland Security's 40th Annual Arson Seminar

April 2014

Pitfalls of Expert Testimony: Avoiding Exclusion and Lawyer Tricks

International Association of Arson Investigators International Training Conference

September 2013

Testifying 101: How to Avoid Lawyer Tricks

International Association of Arson Investigators

NEWS

November 14, 2022

Dozens of Armstrong Teasdale Lawyers Among 2022 Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers®, Rising Stars

October 6, 2022

2023 Edition of Benchmark Litigation USA Recognizes 11 Armstrong Teasdale Trial Lawyers

October 1, 2022

Climbing the Wall: A Case for Working Women to Work Together

May 31, 2022

Karrie Clinkinbeard Named to Missouri Lawyers Weekly 2022 Power List

May 5, 2022

Three Armstrong Teasdale Attorneys Receive 2022 Women's Justice Awards

November 17, 2021

Armstrong Teasdale Attorneys Named 2021 Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers®, Rising Stars

October 6, 2021

Benchmark Litigation Recognizes Armstrong Teasdale Lawyers as 2022 Leading Practitioners

June 1, 2021

Karrie Clinkinbeard Named to Missouri Lawyers Weekly 'Power List'

January 29, 2021

Evening the Scales: Even as women start filling more law firm leadership roles nationally and in KC, statistics show they still have a long way to go

November 16, 2020

Armstrong Teasdale Attorneys Named 2020 Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers®, Rising Stars

October 8, 2020

Benchmark Litigation Recognizes Armstrong Teasdale Litigators as 2021 Leading Practitioners

November 22, 2019

Ingram's Recognizes Karrie Clinkinbeard as '2019 Rainmaker'

November 13, 2019

Armstrong Teasdale Attorneys Named 2019 Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers®, Rising Stars

November 11, 2019

Armstrong Teasdale Litigators Recognized as Leading Practitioners by Benchmark Litigation

June 21, 2019

Karrie Clinkinbeard Listed in Women Who Mean Business

June 3, 2019

Armstrong Teasdale Elects Three Partners to Executive Committee

November 14, 2018

Fifty-Two Armstrong Teasdale Attorneys Named 2018 Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers®, Rising Stars

September 14, 2018

Kansas City Partners Selected to Develop, Revise National Fire Protection Association Standards

June 28, 2017

Kansas City Office Managing Attorney Karrie Clinkinbeard Named a 2017 NextGen Leader

January 31, 2017

Kansas City Partner Karrie Clinkinbeard Graces Cover of KC Counselor

August 22, 2016

Karrie Clinkinbeard Named Managing Attorney of Armstrong Teasdale's Kansas City Office

November 24, 2015

Kansas City Partner Karrie Clinkinbeard Featured in The Huffington Post "Women in Business" Column

September 18, 2015

Clinkinbeard Featured in KC Business Journal: From a Family of Firefighters, She Puts Out Blazes in Court

January 29, 2015

Armstrong Teasdale Lawyers Win Top Defense Verdict, Influential Appellate Advocate Awards

November 4, 2014

Karrie Clinkinbeard, Lynn Hursh Win Defense Verdict for MGE in \$30 Million Explosion Case