



LAUREN HALEY NAVARRO

ASSOCIATE

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Lauren Navarro is a member of the firm's Litigation practice group, where she focuses primarily on the representation of insurance companies. This representation involves analyzing coverage and counseling insurers on risk management, best practices and the important implications of jurisdictional law. Lauren also has extensive experience representing insurers in declaratory judgment actions concerning the interpretation of policy language, interpleader actions, and against bad faith and vexatious refusal claims in both state and federal courts.

In addition to Lauren's substantial insurance practice, she also counsels businesses facing complex commercial lawsuits, including cases involving premises and product liability matters, real estate transactions, consumer protection claims and multi-party contract disputes. This aspect of Lauren's practice involves working hand-in-hand with business owners to minimize, assess and manage the inherent risks of doing business.

Lauren also advises clients on employment matters to ensure compliance with federal and state laws. This includes drafting employment-related contracts, including noncompete and nonsolicitation agreements, and providing counsel on human resource issues to ensure proper documentation, mitigate risk and avoid future disputes.

Lauren is skilled in preparing and responding to written discovery and deposing fact witnesses, corporate representatives and experts. Lauren also has extensive experience preparing and producing corporate representatives, fact witnesses and experts for deposition. She has written and argued both procedural and dispositive motions, and has been involved in all aspects of trial preparation.

EDUCATION

- University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law (J.D., *cum laude*)
 - Law Review and Urban Lawyer (Staff Member)
 - CALI Award for Excellence – Advanced Legal Writing: Litigation Drafting
 - Phi Delta Phi International Legal Honor Society
 - Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
 - Association of Women Law Students
 - Dean's List
- University of Missouri-Kansas City (B.A., *magna cum laude*)
 - Political Science and Government
 - Dean's List

SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

Class Action Litigation
Complex Commercial Litigation
Insurance Coverage Litigation
Employment and Labor Litigation
Product Liability
Real Estate
Life, Health, Disability and ERISA Litigation

ADMISSIONS

Missouri
Kansas
U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri
U.S. District Court, District of Kansas
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri

- Golden Key International Honor Society

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association
- The Missouri Bar
- Kansas Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- Association for Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City
- Missouri Organization of Defense Lawyers (Board of Directors)

BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Lauren was in private practice at a Kansas City civil litigation firm where she focused primarily on insurance defense and insurance coverage matters. While in law school, she served as a clerk for the United States District Court, Western District of Missouri, in the Prisoner Pro Se office.

EXPERIENCE

\$8 Million Award in Arbitration Action

Successfully intervened in arbitration approval action on behalf of insurance company months after alleged insured entered into R.S.Mo. 537.065 agreement. Following intervention, the court vacated its judgment approving an \$8 million arbitration award against the alleged insured.

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 practice 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.

Represented Guardrail Manufacturer in Product Liability Lawsuit

Represented a manufacturer of guardrails in an ongoing product liability lawsuit concerning the design and testing of end terminals and compliance with federal and state transportation regulations where manufacturer was facing claims in multiple states and sold its products internationally.