HUSCH BLACKWELL



Jennifer Cecil

PARTNER

THE LINK VIRTUAL ST. LOUIS, MO*
OFFICE PHONE:
PHONE: 314.480.1661 314.480.1500

EMAIL: JENNIFER.CECIL@HUSCHBLACKWELL.COM

OVERVIEW

Jennifer's diligence and attention to detail make her a standout for both clients and the litigation team.

As a team lead, Jennifer works on mass toxic tort and premises liability cases involving asbestos exposure claims nationwide, primarily representing oil refineries and oil producers. Her meticulous work throughout a case is what both clients and other attorneys appreciate about working with Jennifer.

She develops defense strategies, completes discovery and fact investigations, manages responsive pleadings, deposes fact witnesses, drafts dispositive motions and prepares cases for trial. Jennifer also helps clients set realistic goals as she negotiates with plaintiff's counsel to arrive at a fair value settlement or takes the case to trial.

Alongside her toxic tort work, Jennifer also handles product liability matters where she drafts pleadings, reviews documents and conducts research. She openly communicates with clients and enjoys knowing that her contributions to the litigation team make a significant impact on the outcome.

In addition, Jennifer also assists clients with environmental matters. Prior to joining the firm, Jennifer interned at the U.S. EPA in the Office of Air and Radiation and at the Missouri Attorney General's Office in the Agriculture and Environment Division. At the Attorney General's Office, she researched and drafted memoranda on environmental issues such as the Missouri Clean Air Act and was frequently involved in administrative hearings.

Industries

Manufacturing Technology Transportation

Services

Asbestos Litigation Environmental Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution Product Liability Toxic Tort

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Jennifer also served in a similar role in the Key West State Attorney's Office, where her research work included artificial reef building.

Featured Experience

Court Dismisses Asbestos Case Against Valve Manufacturer

A valve manufacturer client faced a large demand in an asbestos lawsuit. Jennifer handled the fact investigation in the case, contacting the state agency to request records on the boiler construction, reviewing numerous deposition transcripts and analyzing the case for viable defendants. Given the facts, the litigation team advised the client to take the case to trial rather than agree to a settlement. The case was dismissed.

Experience

- Served on trial teams for toxic tort litigation in Missouri and Florida.
- Defended Fortune 500 companies at hundreds of plaintiff, coworker and family member depositions in toxic tort cases.

Recognition

- Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions Defendants, 2023 and
 2024; Product Liability Litigation Defendants, 2024
- Association of Corporate Counsel, Value Champion, 2018

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Education

- Vermont Law School
 - o Dean's List
- B.S., Texas Christian University
 - o magna cum laude
 - Environmental Science
 - o Dean's Scholar
 - Ford Motor Global Scholar

Admissions

- Florida
- Missouri
- Illinois
- Pennsylvania

Community Leadership

Jennifer volunteers with St. Louis Arc, a United Way-funded nonprofit organization for people with developmental and cognitive disabilities. She assists with the walking club, where participants meet at a park, grab a buddy and walk together. The walkers talk about their days, sing songs or share other experiences.

In addition, she and her sister coach the basketball and soccer teams for the organization. The teams allow people to participate in sports they may never have had the chance to play. Jennifer finds it especially rewarding to coach soccer, where she teaches the team how to dribble, shoot and pass every Saturday during the fall soccer season.

- Alzheimer's Association, young ambassador, 2015-present
- St. Louis Arc, volunteer and coach, 2015-present

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*Contact Jennifer to set up an in-person consultation by appointment in the St. Louis office.



2024 Best Lawyers Ones to Watch