HUSCH BLACKWELL

Nicole Prefontaine

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

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OVERVIEW

Nicole is a commercial litigator who represents businesses in complex, high-stakes disputes.

She represents clients across a range of industries, including financial services, in state and federal court. Her experience spans matters involving trademark infringement, trade secrets, privacy and cybersecurity, fraud, employment, bankruptcy, international trade, earn-out disputes, and white collar investigations, as well as class actions involving data breaches and ERISA. She also handles shareholder disputes, breach of contract claims, mechanic's liens, and real estate litigation.

Nicole manages all phases of complex commercial litigation, handling matters from intake through pre-trial proceedings while driving case direction and execution at every stage. She evaluates claims, develops effective approaches, and positions matters for resolution while preserving trial themes when necessary.

She regularly drafts and argues dispositive and pre-trial motions, including motions to dismiss, motions for summary judgment, and motions in limine, and seeks preliminary injunctive relief where appropriate. She also handles discovery, including drafting and answering written discovery, expert coordination, and taking and defending depositions, and appears in court to advocate for clients throughout the litigation process.

Clients value Nicole's genuine investment in understanding their businesses. By learning how they operate, she tailors her approach to what matters most to them. Drawn to the multifaceted natures of commercial disputes, Nicole pairs rigorous legal analysis with a

Industry

Financial Services & Capital Markets

Services

Class Action Defense
Commercial Litigation
Construction Litigation
Data Privacy & Cybersecurity
Employment Litigation Defense
Financial Services Litigation
Intellectual Property Litigation
Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
Non-Competes & Restrictive Covenants
Professional Liability Litigation
Trade Secrets & Business Information Protection
Trademarks
Trust, Estate, & Fiduciary Litigation
White Collar, Internal Investigations, & Compliance
Workplace Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

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creative, problem-solving mindset and a personable approach, translating complex issues into clear, actionable guidance that builds trust and delivers the insight clients rely on.

Recognition

- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*, Commercial Litigation, 2026 and 2027
- Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Star, 2025-2026

Education

- J.D., Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
  - Dean’s Award for Outstanding Performance
  - *Jurimetrics Journal*, Associate Editor; Senior Note and Comment Editor; Best Mentor Award, 2019
  - Moot Court, Alan Matheson Client Counseling Award Recipient, 2018
  - Lisa Foundation Patent Law Clinic, Student Practitioner
  - CALI Award, Animal Law, 2019
  - Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Founder and Vice President, 2018-2019
- B.S., University of Wisconsin-Madison
  - Legal Studies
  - Certificate in Criminal Justice

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Admissions

- Arizona
- Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, District of Arizona
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin

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