HUSCH BLACKWELL



Michael T. Raupp

PARTNER

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OVERVIEW

Michael is co-leader of Husch Blackwell's Appellate Practice and a litigation partner who helps clients win—and protect outcomes in—complex disputes and high-stakes regulatory matters.

He is often brought in when a case turns on critical issues that shape litigation strategy: jurisdiction, immunity, due process, class certification, and the framing of constitutional and statutory questions that are frequently decided on dispositive motions or on appeal.

A prominent focus of Michael's practice is higher-education litigation. He represents public and private colleges and universities, as well as their leadership, in litigation and regulatory disputes involving student and faculty speech, campus discipline, and civil-rights and compliance matters, including Title IX and other campus-related claims. His experience includes guiding institutions through fast-moving, high-sensitivity disputes where strategy must account for legal risk, governance realities, and reputational pressure.

Michael also represents businesses and organizations in complex commercial and statutory litigation, including disputes implicating the Federal Arbitration Act (FAA) and the False Claims Act (FCA), as well as consumer, contract, and trade-secret matters. Across industries, clients value his ability to translate complicated legal and procedural issues into clear options, strong briefing, and practical next steps.

Industries

Education

Healthcare

Services

Appellate

Collegiate Athletics

Emerging Companies & Venture Capital

Higher Education

K-12 Education

Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution

Title IX

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As a former federal appellate law clerk, Michael maintains a robust appellate practice, having argued more than 30 cases and handled over 70 appeals in courts spanning nearly every federal circuit, as well as in state appellate courts throughout the country. He counsels clients through every stage of an appeal—from issue preservation and record development through briefing and oral argument. He has also authored briefs in the Supreme Court of the United States and produces amicus filings in significant cases at the Supreme Court and federal circuit courts, helping clients and organizations present a focused, persuasive voice on issues of broader importance.

Among his many recognitions in legal publications and organizations, Michael was named a finalist for *The American Lawyer's* 2024 Young Lawyer of the Year – Litigation award.

Outside of his practice, Michael and his wife, Courtney, are active in the Kansas City community. He serves on the board of the Kansas City Hospice Foundation and is active in several civic and charitable organizations, including the Catholic Education Foundation and Church of the Nativity. Michael is an alumnus of the Kansas City Chamber's Centurions Leadership Program and has been recognized as a Kansas City "40 Under 40" honoree.

Case Study

Farmobile LLC

Farmobile secured a complete defense victory in enterprise-threatening trade secret litigation.

Experience

- Successfully represented university and its leadership in due process and age discrimination case before the district court and U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit, obtaining and securing dismissal in favor of the university parties based on sovereign immunity and compliance with due process obligations.
- Successfully represented large publicly-traded bank, obtaining full reversal of adverse jury verdict, as well as securing entry of judgment in the bank's favor from the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District.
- Successfully represented public university officials in First Amendment challenge to a university policy before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, obtaining reversal of the district court's order and entry of judgment in favor of the University.

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Experience

- Successfully represented large national warranty company to defend grant of summary judgment on breach of contract claim before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.
- Successfully represented public university president before U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit, obtaining reversal of the district court's denial of qualified immunity.
- Successfully represented public university in briefing and oral argument before U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit to obtain reversal of denial of motion to dismiss on qualified immunity for university police officers.
- Successfully represented hospice provider in False Claims Act (FCA) and Anti-Kickback Statute (AKS) case before U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, securing affirmance of full dismissal of all claims.
- Successfully represented state representative in First Amendment case related to blocking on Twitter, briefing and presenting oral argument to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit to secure reversal of the trial court's adverse ruling.
- Successfully represented precision-agriculture company Farmobile in briefing and oral argument before U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, securing affirmance of summary judgment on all counts in trade-secret dispute.
- Successfully represented employee from large public university in lawsuit alleging several tort claims, obtaining grant of motion to dismiss all claims, and successfully defending that judgment in the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District.
- Successfully represented large public university in obtaining reversal from U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, on denial of qualified immunity to several university administrators on First Amendment retaliation claims.
- Successfully represented large public university in Title IX lawsuit, obtaining summary judgment on all counts and securing full affirmance from the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

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Experience

- Successfully represented leading national insurance regulatory organization with regard to amicus briefing in the Supreme Court of the United States, at both the petition and merits stages, in *Maine Community Health Options v. United States*, dealing with health insurers' claims for outstanding Risk Corridor payments under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).
- Successfully represented family of deceased Marine veteran pro bono in wrongful death action against U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), securing verdict for family following seven-day bench trial.
- Successfully represented large national bank before U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, securing affirmance of summary judgment on all counts.
- Successfully represented hospital before U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, to obtain affirmance of jury trial defense verdict on all counts in employment-termination dispute.
- Authored amicus curiae brief to the Supreme Court of the United States on behalf of the Council of the Great City Schools in *Endrew F. v. Douglas County School District*, which was awarded the August Steinhilber Award for Outstanding Brief in Education Law from the Education Law Association (ELA).
- Successfully represented private university in student-discipline lawsuit in federal district court, obtaining dismissal for lack of personal jurisdiction.
- Filed a petition for writ of certiorari with the United States Supreme Court on behalf of a Wisconsin mother after a county child welfare agency took away one of her children and, as the mother maintains, violated her constitutional rights in the process.

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Recognition

- International Municipal Lawyers Association, IMLA Amicus Service Award, 2025
- *Missouri Lawyers Media,* POWER List for Appellate Law, 2025 and 2026
- *Missouri Lawyers Media*, Influential Appellate Advocate, 2025
- *The American Lawyer,* Young Lawyer of the Year-Litigation, Finalist, 2024
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®
    - Commercial Litigation, 2024-2027
- *Ingram's*, 40 Under Forty, 2024
- David J. Dixon Appellate Advocacy Award, The Missouri Bar Foundation, 2023
- *Benchmark Litigation*, 40 & Under List, 2023-2025
- Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, Commercial Litigation, 2021-2023
- *Missouri Lawyers Weekly*, Up & Coming Award, 2018
- Kansas Bar Association, 2018 Kansas Bar Association Pro Bono Award
- *Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers*, Appellate, Rising Star, 2015-2025
- Education Law Association, August Steinhilber Award for Outstanding Brief in Education Law, 2017
- Missouri Pro Bono Wall of Fame, 2014-2018

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Education

- J.D., University of Texas School of Law
  - with high honors
  - *Texas Law Review*, Editor-in-Chief
  - Order of the Coif
  - Supreme Court Clinic, 2011-2012
  - ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition, national semifinalist team, 2011
  - Thad T. Hutcheson Moot Court Competition, champion, 2010
- B.S., University of Kansas
  - with distinction
  - Business
  - Frank T. Stockton Award
  - KU School of Business, top senior finance student

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Admissions

- Missouri
- Kansas
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims
- U.S. District Court, District of Kansas
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri

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- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin
- U.S. Court of Federal Claims

Clerkship

The Hon. Duane Benton, U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, 2012-2013

Community Leadership

- Centurions Leadership Program, Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, Class of 2019
- Kansas City Hospice, Young Ambassadors, 2016-2018; Foundation, Board of Directors, 2019
- Operation Breakthrough, Leadership Council, 2012-present



The Best Lawyers in America®

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