HUSCH BLACKWELL

Maurice A. Watson

OF COUNSEL

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OVERVIEW

Maurice, who formerly served as the firm's Chairman, principally advises educational institutions, including public and private schools and school systems, colleges and universities, and regional and national education associations.

He has represented clients in state and federal courts in complaints brought by employees for employment discrimination, harassment and alleged violations of statutory and constitutional rights and cases filed by students for alleged violations of statutory and constitutional rights with favorable outcomes.

Maurice brings significant leadership experience in the health care and education sectors, having served on numerous community and national boards, including:

- Children's Mercy Hospital and Children's Mercy Hospital Foundation
- National Association of Children's Hospitals
- Saint Luke's Health System
- Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City
- National Association of Independent Schools

Industries

Education
Healthcare

Services

Healthcare Providers
Higher Education
K-12 Education

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- National School Board Association's Council of School Attorneys
- Kansas City Art Institute
- AIDS Service Foundation

Maurice also advises public, private and nonprofit boards in sensitive investigations of misconduct involving executives, administrators and directors. He regularly speaks at national and regional meetings and conferences on the legal rights of students and employees in the school setting and also works with boards on best governance practices.

As Chairman of Husch Blackwell from 2012-18, he led the firm's Executive Board and was responsible for the firm's strategic direction, culture and policies. As the firm's visible leader and public ambassador, he communicated the firm's vision and strategic direction to the firm's clients and the market. Externally, he was responsible for developing and communicating the firm's strategic direction and ensuring that its policies and culture align with this direction.

Before joining Husch Blackwell, Maurice was a senior aide to U.S. Sen. John Danforth in Washington, D.C.

Recognition

- *Kansas City Business Journal*, Power 100, 2014-2017
- Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent
- Missouri Hospital Association Excellence in Governance Award, 2007
- *Missouri Lawyers Weekly*, Law Firm Leader, 2018
- NAACP, Kansas City, Mo., Chapter, Velma E. Woodson Outstanding Leadership Award, 2012
- Nonprofit Connect Volunteer of the Year Award, 2012 [video]
- *Savoy Magazine*, 2015 Most Influential Black Lawyers
- Urban League of Greater Kansas City, Difference Maker of the Year Award, 2012

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Education

- J.D., Harvard Law School
- A.B., Harvard University
    - *cum laude*

Admissions

- Missouri
- U.S. District Court, District of Kansas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit

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Community Leadership

- AIDS Service Foundation, Board of Directors, 2006-2012
- The Barstow School, Board of Trustees, President, 1989-1996
- Children's Mercy Hospital, Board of Directors, Chair, 1993-2007
- Children's Mercy Hospital Foundation, Board of Trustees, Vice Chair, 2002-2007, 2012-present
- Civic Council of Greater Kansas City, Director, 2014-present
- Harry S. Truman Library Institute, Board of Directors, 2008-2017, Board Secretary, 2015-2017
- Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, Community Advisory Board, 2005-2006
- Kansas City Art Institute, Board of Trustees, 2008-2014
- Kansas City Ballet, Board of Directors, Executive Committee, 2001-2007
- Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors, 2012-2016
- Metropolitan Community College Foundation, Board of Directors, 2011-present
- Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Board of Trustees, 2012-present
- University of Missouri-Kansas City, Board of Trustees, 2012-present

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