HUSCH BLACKWELL



Mary Kate Mullen

PARTNER

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OVERVIEW

Mary Kate takes a service-first approach to representing clients in complex healthcare and railroad disputes in federal and state courts.

Well-known at the firm for her trial skills, Mary Kate is involved in every stage of commercial and healthcare litigation. She has been trying cases from the beginning of her career, with an unusual amount of both trial and oral argument experience for an attorney at her experience level. A graduate of the National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel (NARTC)'s trial college program, Mary Kate has built a strong reputation as a highly prepared litigator who knows case law backwards and forwards, who has a knack for anticipating opposing arguments and judges' reactions, and who remains calm under great pressure.

Litigation is in Mary Kate's blood: the daughter of a former City of St. Louis judge, she grew up with court proceedings as a frequent topic at the dinner table, and she is extensively familiar with the Missouri state court system and its rules. She often serves as local Missouri or St. Louis counsel on cases across the firm.

With a passion for the healthcare industry, Mary Kate devotes the majority of her practice to various healthcare clients. She also works regularly with railroads. She advises and defends clients in business-critical cases, including malpractice allegations, breach of contract litigation, wrongful death lawsuits and employment matters.

At the end of the day, Mary Kate would simply describe her role as helping people through difficult situations. She knows litigation is stressful and frightening,

Industries

Education
Healthcare
Life Sciences

Services

340B Drug Pricing Program
Appellate
Commercial Litigation
Emerging Companies & Venture Capital
ERISA & Employee Benefits Litigation
Healthcare Litigation
Healthcare Operations
Healthcare Providers
Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
Pharmacy
Rail

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sometimes putting a client's entire organization on the line, and her goal is to provide full support. Her approach always keeps service front and center: Mary Kate knows clients want different things and have different goals for litigation, and she seeks to develop strategic solutions that fit individual client needs.

Experience

- Obtained a defense verdict after a week-long jury trial on behalf of The Kansas City Southern Railway Company in a case brought under the Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA).
- Procured favorable settlement on behalf of plaintiff in complex pharmacy rebate breach of contract litigation.
- Won case dismissals in nursing home discharge administrative hearings.
- Successfully defended temporary restraining order filed against pharmacy benefit manager in federal court.
- Successfully won motion for summary judgment in complex arbitration on behalf of pharmacy benefit manager.
- Obtained highly favorable settlement for pharmacy benefit manager after plaintiff made multimillion-dollar demand.
- Obtained defense verdict after week-long jury trial in wrongful death case in St. Louis County.
- Co-investigated alleged incidents of disability discrimination in university athletics.
- Co-investigated alleged incidents of sexual harassment in university athletics.
- Obtained favorable result from the Missouri Court of Appeals when the Court of Appeals affirmed a jury verdict in favor of anesthesia provider client.
- Won order striking defendant's pleadings and default judgment in breach of contract action.
- Obtained a defense verdict after a week-long jury trial in Boone County, Missouri where patient alleged neurological injuries and brain injury as a result of anesthesia care provided to him.

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Recognition

- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*, Commercial Litigation, 2024-2027
- *Missouri Lawyers Media,* Up & Coming Lawyer, 2023
- Missouri Bar Pro Bono Wall of Fame, 2017-2019, 2021
- Association of Corporate Counsel, Value Champion, 2018

Education

- J.D., Saint Louis University School of Law
  - *cum laude*
  - *Saint Louis University Law Journal*
- B.A., Rhodes College
  - *cum laude*
  - History
  - NCAA All-American

Admissions

- Missouri
- Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri

Clerkship

The Hon. Kurt S. Odenwald, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, 2016

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Community Leadership

Mary Kate has an active pro bono practice, representing low-income families, including refugees and recent immigrants. She volunteers throughout the local community as well, with a particular passion for serving the homeless.

- St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association
- St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church Parish
- Cor Jesu Academy, Mock Trial Coach
- Peter & Paul Community Services, Board Member



Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America

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