HUSCH BLACKWELL



Kristen W. Durant

SENIOR COUNSEL

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OVERVIEW

Kristen utilizes her extensive training in alternative dispute resolution to efficiently resolve legal disputes when appropriate, but also acts as an aggressive advocate for clients when litigation is the optimal path. She practices from St. Petersburg, Florida as a member of our virtual office, The Link.

Having completed a curriculum in alternative dispute resolution (ADR), Kristen is adept at finding early and efficient options for challenging and resolving disputes. Kristen advocates for clients on the firm's award-winning Asbestos Litigation team, which is known for strategizing innovative and cost-sensitive solutions for insurance and manufacturing clients facing challenging risk profiles and dockets. Kristen also has extensive deposition and courtroom experience concerning automotive and transportation products, along with industrial equipment. She is a skilled litigator and fierce protector of clients' interests.

Kristen is committed to keeping an open line of communication with clients throughout the litigation process. Appreciated by clients and colleagues for her creativity, her communication skills and her ability to effectively collaborate, Kristen is able to analyze complex legal issues and offer nuanced counsel in part by staying in close contact with clients.

Industries

Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Asbestos Litigation
Complex Torts (CXT)
Product Liability
Toxic Tort

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Experience

- Second-chaired personal injury amputation trial spanning eight days with plaintiff requesting +3M in damages and resulting in zero-fault verdict for sole defendant, including conducting cross examinations of key fact witnesses.
- First-chaired civil trial to verdict in property damages matter, recovering full damages requested by client.
- First-chaired civil trial in matter of property boundary, reaching desired result for client.

Recognition

- *Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers*, Product Liability, Rising Star, 2019-2025
- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association (KCMBA), Bar Leadership Academy (BLA), 2018 Class
- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association (KCMBA), Ross T. Roberts Trial Academy, 2019 Class
- Missouri Bar Pro Bono Wall of Fame, 2021

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Education

- J.D., University of Missouri School of Law
  - *Missouri Law Review*, Associate Editor
  - ABA Arbitration National Competition, second place
  - Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys Student Chapter, President
  - Phi Alpha Delta, Vice-President
  - Dean's List
- B.A., University of Missouri-Columbia
  - Psychology
  - Dean's List

Admissions

- Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri
- Kansas
- Illinois
- Florida
- Pennsylvania
- Massachusetts

Community Leadership

- Happy Birthday Inc., Board of Directors
- Cornerstones of Care – Gillis Campus, Champion of Care volunteer
- Wings 4 Water, Volunteer

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*Kristen works remotely and is licensed in Florida, practicing in St. Petersburg. Contact Kristen via email or phone for in-person/virtual meetings. Use our Kansas City office address for mail/deliveries.



FT Innovat Alliance Nomination

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