

Sarah L. Nirenberg represents employers involved in litigation pertinent to all areas of employment law, including statutory claims under federal and state law for discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and payment of wages. She is also experienced in the complex field of trade secret and noncompete litigation and serves as the Co-Chair of the firm's Trade Secret and Non-Compete Specialty Team. In that role, she has advised the Michigan legislature on non-compete reform and authored definitive legal treatises on Michigan restrictive covenants.

In employment law, Sarah has distinguished herself by handling high-profile litigation for prominent institutions including universities, colleges, a national television and radio news outlet, medical practices, and automotive suppliers. Her storytelling approach to litigation—crafting compelling narratives and presenting complex situations with clarity—has proven particularly effective in employment discrimination matters, contract disputes, and sensitive workplace investigations.

Drawing from her experience as a former Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, she excels at helping clients articulate their positions persuasively, especially in cases attracting media attention.

Sarah's trade secret and non-compete practice uniquely spans both sides of disputes. She represents employers protecting intellectual assets, employees defending against claims, and new employers navigating alleged violations. This comprehensive perspective has made her a sought-after speaker at major institutions, including Michigan's Institute of Continuing Legal Education, where she educates Human Resources professionals, attorneys, and business leaders on evolving legal landscapes.

Primary Practice Areas

Labor and Employment
Employment Litigation

All Related Practice Areas

Labor and Employment

Employment Litigation

Job Discrimination & Wrongful Discharge

Education Industry Team

Government Relations and Regulatory Specialty Team

Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Media Litigation

Non-Compete & Trade Secret

Trade Secret & Non-Compete Specialty Team

SARAH L. NIRENBERG

Sarah Nirenberg is a Shareholder based in Butzel's Troy office. She earned her juris doctor, *cum laude*, from Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, where she was a member of the National Moot Court Team and an Executive Articles Editor of the *Jurisprudence Review*. She received her bachelor's degree from Michigan State University, where she was a student-athlete on the Varsity Women's Golf Team.

Her rapid rise and innovative approaches have earned Sarah recognition from several prominent legal publications in the areas of Labor and Employment Law and Labor and Employment Litigation. She has been named to the lists of *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2025 "Ones to Watch," Michigan *Super Lawyers* 2023 Rising Stars, and *Michigan Lawyers Weekly's* 2022 Class of Up & Coming Lawyers.

Credentials

EDUCATION

Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, J.D., cum laude

Michigan State University, James Madison College and Honor's College, B.A.

ADMISSIONS

Michigan

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan

United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin

MEMBERSHIPS

State Bar of Michigan – Labor & Employment Law Section

Oakland County Bar Association

Awards & Recognitions

The Best Lawyers in America® - Ones to Watch in America - Labor and Employment Law - Management, Litigation - Labor and Employment, 2022-2026

Michigan Lawyers Weekly – Go to Lawyers for Employment Law, 2024



SARAH L. NIRENBERG

Michigan Lawyers Weekly – Up & Coming Lawyers, 2022

Michigan Super Lawyers – Rising Stars, Employment & Labor, 2023

