

Benjamin D. Woodard

PARTNER

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Office: St. Louis



Clients ranging from Fortune 500 companies to small, locally-owned businesses and municipal governments turn to Ben for their employment counseling and litigation matters.

Ben is a tenacious litigator with extensive trial experience representing clients in employment matters and other commercial disputes. Ben's experience includes defending clients in employment discrimination, wrongful termination, retaliation and whistleblower claims under federal, state, and local statutes. Ben is also a trusted advisor and counselor to clients in all areas of employment law including hiring and firing, employment agreements, workplace investigations, restrictive covenants, labor negotiations, leaves of absence, disability issues, wage and hour compliance, and preventing discrimination, harassment and retaliation.

In addition to employment litigation, Ben also has extensive experience representing clients in False Claims Act cases, alleged bad faith insurance cases and product liability lawsuits.

EXPERIENCE

Among recent successes, Ben obtained a unanimous defense verdict for a client after a three-week jury trial with a Plaintiff seeking over \$50 million in addition to punitive damages.

PRACTICES & INDUSTRIES

Labor, Employment & Benefits
Employment Litigation
Business Litigation
Agribusiness
Intellectual Property & Technology

ADMISSIONS

Missouri, 2014
Illinois, 2015
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, 2014
U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois, 2016

EDUCATION

St. Louis University School of Law, J.D.,
magna cum laude, 2014

- Order of the Woolsack
- *St. Louis University Law Journal*, Lead Editor

University of Missouri-Columbia, B.A.,

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Successfully defended a client and obtained a complete defense verdict after a trial on multiple claims arising under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and its state law companion.

Political Science, *magna cum laude*, 2011

Effectively defended against multiple False Claims Act cases including obtaining a complete dismissal of a multimillion dollar case brought by a client's competitor.

Successfully obtained a verdict for a client after a week-long jury trial on a breach of contract claim.

Successfully defended against and obtained a complete dismissal for a client on a complex multimillion dollar commercial lawsuit in federal court.

RECOGNITIONS

Named to the 2021-2024 *Best Lawyers in America*® "Ones to Watch" list

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC ACTIVITIES

FOCUS St. Louis, Leadership St. Louis Program 2021-2022

Missouri Bar, 2014

Metropolitan Bar of St. Louis, 2014

NEWS

Best Lawyers in America Recognizes 32 Stinson Attorneys as "Ones to Watch"

08.17.2023

Best Lawyers in America® Recognizes 29 Stinson Attorneys as "Ones to Watch"

08.18.2022

Stinson Elects Nine New Partners in 2022

01.11.2022

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Ben Woodard Quoted in *The Business Journals* on Biden's Employer Mandate
09.13.2021

Best Lawyers in America Recognizes 23 Stinson Attorneys as "Ones to Watch"
08.19.2021

Ben Woodard Selected for 2021-2022 Leadership St. Louis Class
06.15.2021

Best Lawyers Recognizes 21 Stinson Attorneys as "Ones to Watch"
08.20.2020

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

The Impact of AI in the Legal World
Stinson LLP, 05.01.2024

New Challenges for HR in 2023 – St. Louis
02.02.2023

Intersection of Business, Law & Technology Seminar
The Ritz-Carlton St. Louis, 11.15.2022

New Challenges for HR in 2022
02.03.2022

New Challenges for HR in 2020 - St. Louis
Stinson LLP - St. Louis, 02.06.2020

PUBLICATIONS

"WARNING: Prop 65 "Can Expose" Product Manufacturers to Increased Litigation in California," October 2016

"California's Proposition 65: History and Proposed Amendments in 2016," May 2016

"Federal Preemption of State and Local Laws Governing Children's Products," April 2016

DOL's Final Rule Increases Minimum Salary Threshold for FLSA Exemption, Overtime Requirements
04.25.2024

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OSHA (Finally) Issues COVID-19 ETS Applicable to Healthcare Industry Along with Updated Guidance for All Workplaces

06.10.2021

You Got Your PPP Loan, Now What?

04.13.2020

DOL Issues Temporary Rule Promulgating Regulations on the FFCRA

04.03.2020

Small and Mid-Sized Businesses Must Be Cognizant of the Requirements that Accompany CARES Act Relief

03.30.2020

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