

Christopher B. Sevedge

He/Him

PARTNER

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Chris delivers pragmatic advice and forceful advocacy across an array of commercial litigation and insurance recovery matters.

Chris represents businesses before, during, and after they suffer claims, disputes, or losses. He has broad complex commercial litigation experience in state and federal courts representing both plaintiffs and defendants in matters spanning bankruptcy, business tort and trade secret, commercial real estate, contract and quasi-contract, environmental contamination, product liability, shareholder, and trust and estate disputes. He frequently represents policyholders in insurance coverage disputes, and he has successfully pursued insurance coverage claims on their behalf under all major forms of business insurance policies.

As a risk management advisor, Chris advises and counsels policyholder clients throughout the entire lifecycle of matters concerning their efforts to preserve, secure, and obtain the benefits of their insurance coverage or contractual indemnification rights. He draws on his extensive litigation and disputes experience to help his clients begin to manage emerging exposures and navigate potential issues before litigation materializes on the horizon. He counsels clients concerning their insurance programs, policy applications, policy renewals, and contractual risk-transfer provisions. He enforces indemnity and defense claims against third parties and their insurers. He

PRACTICES & INDUSTRIES

Business Litigation

Business Policyholder Insurance Coverage

ADMISSIONS

Missouri

Kansas

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri

U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas

EDUCATION

University of Virginia, J.D., 2015

- *The Journal of Law and Politics*, Production Editor
- Dillard Fellow, Legal Research & Writing Program

University of Virginia, B.A., 2011

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regularly cooperates with liability insurers concerning the defense and resolution of pending ongoing matters, and he coordinates with defense counsel on coverage issues in the midst of high-stakes and multi-party litigation.

Chris also has deep experience counseling companies, independent directors, and officers on insurance coverage and indemnity issues arising from insolvency, bankruptcy, receivership, and other forms of financial distress. He regularly advises the firm's corporate clients on insurance coverage and indemnity issues in connection with mergers, acquisitions, and other transactional activity, and he negotiates manuscript insurance policy language to address specialty exposures.

EXPERIENCE

Insurance Recovery

Chris obtained summary judgment on behalf of a food manufacturing client, securing insurance coverage for a product contamination claim under a commercial general liability policy.

He obtained summary judgment on behalf of a specialty beverage supplier, securing insurance coverage under a pollution policy for tort claims relating to a chemical release.

He secured a high-value settlement of a multimillion dollar dispute with a municipality's liability insurer concerning a policy limits demand for a pending tort claim under the Kansas Tort Claims Act.

He has successfully resolved multiple coverage disputes concerning first-party and liability claims arising out of employee thefts, bribery schemes, and other allegedly fraudulent and/or criminal activities.

He secured a high-value settlement of a dispute with a client's cyber insurer following a ransomware event.

He successfully resolved a multimillion dollar property insurance dispute arising from the loss of a building by fire.

He successfully resolved a dispute over coverage for materials under a contractor's inland marine policy.

He has served as coverage counsel for multiple attorneys and law firms to secure professional liability coverage for various underlying pending claims.

Bankruptcy

Chris is a member of a team that has worked as bankruptcy counsel on behalf of several unsecured creditors' committees in mass tort bankruptcy proceedings across the country. He has helped to secure hundreds of millions of dollars in insurance coverage for creditors under various forms of liability insurance policies spanning several decades.

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Chris has also successfully secured coverage under D&O and other executive management policies for directors, officers, and distressed companies facing bankruptcy or receivership.

Commercial Litigation

Chris secured the dismissal of several counts brought by a foreign financial institution on various contract, quasi-contract, and tort theories arising out of the insolvency of a South American grain trading company.

He is a member of a team that has worked as defense counsel concerning environmental contamination claims and helped secure a defense verdict in state court.

He obtained summary judgment on behalf of a Missouri bank, defeating a multimillion dollar equitable subrogation claim by a borrower's surety companies.

Chris obtained summary judgment against post-acquisition claims alleging that the buyer converted the seller's confidential business data.

He has successfully resolved multiple disputes concerning non-compete agreements and employees' misappropriation of trade secrets in state and federal court.

He secured a high-value settlement in favor of a software company concerning a dispute over a service as a software agreement.

He helped defeat a bid for preliminary injunctive relief in state court concerning a dispute over restrictive covenants, followed soon thereafter by a successful global resolution of the dispute.

He was part of a team that secured a favorable construction of key trust language via summary judgment in state court.

He has also represented clients in several internal and government investigations concerning various forms of alleged or suspected misconduct.

RECOGNITIONS

Named a 2023 Missouri & Kansas *Super Lawyers* Rising Star

Named to the *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America* list, 2021, 2022, 2025

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association Pro Bono Champion, November 2020

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PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC ACTIVITIES

American Bar Association, Litigation Section, Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association

Nelson-Atkins Museum Friends of Art

University of Virginia Alumni Association

NEWS

Stinson Achieves Substantial Creditor Recovery in Wellpath Holdings, Inc. Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case
05.22.2025

Super Lawyers Recognizes 26 from Stinson on 2024 Missouri and Kansas Top Lists
11.14.2024

Best Lawyers® Names 34 Stinson Attorneys to *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America* List
08.15.2024

Super Lawyers Recognizes 29 from Stinson on Missouri and Kansas Top Lists
11.14.2023

Eleven Attorneys Elected to Partnership at Stinson in 2023
01.05.2023

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Liability Insurance Basics: Scope and Recurring Issues, July 2019, July 2021, and May 2024

Business Insurance for Computer Crime and Other Cyber-Related Losses
Stinson, 06.13.2023

Business Insurance for Computer Crime and Other Cyber-Related Losses
Stinson LLP, 02.16.2023

PUBLICATIONS

"Proving Lost Business Income for Manufacturers Without Clearly Identifiable Lost Sales," published in the ABA's *Coverage Magazine*, spring 2018

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