

# Sharon R. Markowitz

## PARTNER

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Direct: 612.335.1974

Office: Minneapolis



Sharon represents clients in a range of litigation matters – including class actions and high-exposure, complex litigation – and counsels clients on how to minimize their litigation risk.

Sharon also helps clients navigate situations in which they are unable to perform their contracts due to unforeseeable events like epidemics and extreme weather conditions (force majeure events).

Sharon also counsels clients on issues related to non-competition, non-disclosure, and non-solicitation agreements.

Additionally, Sharon represents health-care clients in overpayment and False Claims Act disputes and other litigation matters.

## EXPERIENCE

### Class Actions and Consumer-Protection Litigation

Sharon has represented many large companies in high-exposure cases brought by the Minnesota Attorney General for alleged violations of consumer-protection and public-nuisance laws.

She represents several large companies in high-exposure putative class actions for alleged breaches of warranty, product liability, fraud, and violations of consumer-protection laws.

## PRACTICES & INDUSTRIES

Class Action

Structured Finance & RMBS Litigation

Antitrust

Business Litigation

Employment Litigation

Estate & Trust Litigation

Health Care & Life Sciences

Health Care Litigation

## ADMISSIONS

Minnesota

U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

## EDUCATION

University of Minnesota Law School, J.D.,  
*magna cum laude*

- *Minnesota Law Review*, Editor

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Sharon has represented the defendant in a putative class action alleging that the defendant deceptively marketed a consumer product as compostable even though it contained PFAS substances.

Sharon represented a property and casualty insurer in multiple class actions involving allegations of improper labor depreciation.

### Financial-Services Litigation

Sharon has represented over a dozen banks and mortgage lenders in multimillion dollar suits brought by large private purchasers of mortgage loans, seeking indemnification in connection with settlements they made with RMBS Trustees and government-sponsored entities.

She has represented a loan servicer in an indemnity action brought by a purchaser of distressed loans.

Sharon has represented a defendant in a mortgage loan repurchase action.

Sharon has represented multiple lenders against Fair Debt Collections Practices Act (FDCPA) claims.

### Contract Negotiation and Litigation

Sharon has advised dozens of clients on how to navigate force majeure events and how to draft their contracts to minimize their risks in connection with force majeure events, supply shortages, and supply-chain disruptions.

She has advised dozens of clients on how to minimize their litigation risk and, in particular, their risks in connection with indemnity obligations.

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St. Olaf College, B.A., Economics and Political Science, *summa cum laude*
- Phi Beta Kappa

### CLERKSHIPS

Minnesota Court of Appeals

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## Other Experience

Sharon has represented individuals and employers in numerous non-compete disputes, on both the plaintiffs' side and the defense side.

Sharon has defended employers in numerous employment disputes.

Sharon has represented multiple health care providers in overpayment disputes and False Claims Act disputes.

She has represented clients in multimillion dollar trust and estate litigation.

Sharon has worked on numerous appeals. Sharon was a judicial clerk on the Minnesota Court of Appeals; she was an adjunct professor of appellate advocacy at St. Thomas Law School; and she coordinates Stinson's-Minneapolis pro bono appeals program.

Sharon is a qualified neutral under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice.

Sharon co-founded and co-chairs the Minnesota Federal Bar Association's Civil Discovery practice group – which aims to make civil discovery better, faster, cheaper, and easier.

## RECOGNITIONS

Selected to the 2024 edition of *Best Lawyers in America*©

*Minnesota Lawyer* Up & Coming Attorney, 2020

Recognized as a Minnesota *Super Lawyers*® Rising Star, 2018 - 2021

## PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Minnesota State Bar Association

Hennepin County Bar Association

Foster Adopt MN (fka MN Adopt), Board Chair

## NEWS

Two Stinson Partners Highlighted in Women's History Month Feature by *Attorney at Law Magazine*  
03.08.2023

## Sharon R. Markowitz

Stinson Attorneys Named to 2021 Minnesota *Super Lawyers* and Rising Stars

09.02.2021

Stinson Advises Two Harbors in \$260 Million Common Stock Offering

07.19.2021

Sharon Markowitz Publishes on Auto-Backed Securities in *Non-Prime Times*

08.26.2020

Stinson Attorneys Named to 2020 Minnesota *Super Lawyers* and Rising Stars

07.20.2020

Stinson Partners Jason Engelhart and Sharon Markowitz Recognized as Up & Coming Attorneys by *Minnesota Lawyer*

07.10.2020

Zane Gilmer, Sharon Markowitz Quoted on Force Majeure and Breach of Contracts

03.26.2020

Stinson Establishes Coronavirus Task Force to Support Clients

03.12.2020

### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

New Challenges for HR in 2023 – Minneapolis

02.07.2023

Earthquakes, Blizzards and Floods, Oh My! What Suppliers Need To Know About Force Majeure and Extreme Weather Events

06.15.2021

2021 Business Law Update

03.04.2021

Help! What Can I Do if the Coronavirus Prevents Me From Fulfilling My Contracts? - Force Majeure and the Coronavirus Webinar (Recording Available)

03.24.2020

### PUBLICATIONS

Class Actions chapter of the Minnesota Business Disputes Deskbook, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education

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## Sharon R. Markowitz

["Force Majeure and the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\),"](#) *Stinson's Government Contracting Matters Blog*, March 12, 2020

["Reducing Your Exposure in the Next Economic Downturn,"](#) *The Missouri Banker*, September 2019

FTC Bans Worker Non-Competes

04.24.2024

Employer Non-Compete Agreements Face Possible Ban by FTC

01.06.2023

Force Majeure and the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

03.12.2020

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