



Kathleen Hart Attorney

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Biography

Kathleen Hart concentrates her practice in civil and commercial litigation, frequently pursuing or defending cases that involve injunctive relief, such as breach of non-competition agreements, trade secret misappropriation, and unfair competition claims; contract and property disputes; shareholder and corporate control battles; failed business transactions; and RICO, fraud, embezzlement and business tort claims. She helps clients evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their claims and defenses in order to position themselves to resolve disputes. Due to her experience with federal procedural matters, Kathleen regularly serves as local counsel in cases pending before the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, many of which involve complex contract or intellectual property claims.

In addition, Kathleen serves as outside general counsel for various privately-held businesses, and uses her combined employment law and litigation experience to prepare and negotiate employment, non-competition, confidentiality/non-disclosure, and severance agreements. For more than a dozen years, Kathleen has also assisted women and minority businesses in obtaining MBE/WBE/DBE certification with governmental or other certifying agencies.

Community Activity

- Assistance League of Indianapolis (Advisory Council to the Board, 2007-present)
- Upon request of various schools or non-profit programs, Kathleen serves as an inspirational speaker to empower challenged teenage students

Seminars/Presentations

Kathleen has spoken at many seminars on the topics of injunctive relief cases, non-competition agreements, trade secret misappropriation, and various employment law issues faced by businesses. She regularly consults with clients on ways to avoid litigation.

- “Covenants Not to Compete,” ICLEF, Program Chair (May 22, 2012)

Case Studies

- MWebster v. Methodist Occupational Health Centers, Inc., 141 F.3d 1236 (7th Cir. 1998)
- Indiana Dept. of Ins. v. Vernon General Ins. Co., 784 N.E.2d 556 (Ind. Ct. App. 2003)
- Sherrell v. N. Cmty. Sch. Corp. of Tipton County, 801 N.E.2d 693 (Ind. Ct. App. 2004)
- Allgood v. Meridian Sec. Ins. Co., 836 N.E.2d 243 (Ind. 2005)
- Lawler Mfg. Co. v. Bradley Corp., 2009 WL 1159577 (S.D. Ind. 2009)
- Hoosier Energy Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. v. John Hancock Life Insurance Co., 582 F.3d.721 (7th Cir. 2009)
- In re Miller, 935 N.E.2d 729 (Ind. Ct. App. 2010)

Rankings and Awards

- Indiana Super Lawyers® (2007-2009)
- Distinguished Fellow, Indianapolis Bar Association (2011)
- Distinguished Senior Fellow, Indianapolis Bar Foundation (2014)

Publications

- SAFEGUARD YOUR SECRETS TO PROTECT YOUR COMPANY'S FUTURE (RBE Blog 2017)

Associations

- Local Rules Advisory Committee for the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana (1998 to present)
- Indianapolis Bar Association (Member, 1994-present; Board Member, 2014-2015 and 2011-12; Counsel to the Board, 2013; Co-Chair of Standing Committee on Professionalism, 2010); Federal Bar Association, Indianapolis Chapter (President, 2008-2009; Officer/Executive Committee Member (2002-2010)
- Sagamore American Inn of Court, Executive Committee/Barrister (2000-2010)

Education

- Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, J.D. (1994)
- Indiana University, B.A., with distinction (1990)
- National Institute for Trial Advocacy (Boulder, Colorado 2000), Graduate
- ICLEF Civil Mediation Training (40 hours, Summer 2010), Graduate

Bar Admission

- Indiana (1995)
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana
- United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana
- United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit