

Missouri

To the south of litigation power market Illinois, Missouri is seeing a serious increase in legal work – more specifically in litigation. Insiders in the state notice a rise in sophistication, but also in consolidation, with boutique shops going away and most firms in town becoming “one-stop-shops.” The state’s major centers are its largest cities, St Louis and Kansas City.

Highly recommended firms

Headquartered in St Louis, international firm **Bryan Cave** is constantly mentioned by competitors as a top litigation firm. Clients say the firm “is responsive and provides positive results.” One client says “We actually moved of our cases to them in the past year.” Another says, “Their services are fantastic” [and] “they really know what they are doing.” The firm boasts more than 450 litigators worldwide. With more than one-third of all litigators practicing in the state, the Bryan Cave team has become a dependable force in the region for complex litigation matters. With two other locations in the state, in Jefferson City and Kansas City, the firm has embraced its niche in the products liability realm. **Dan Ball** and Bettina Strauss, in the St Louis office, are highlighted as top products litigators. Most of Ball’s product work is national, having noticed an evolution from a local and regional practice to a national one within the past ten years. Clients say he is “a really excellent trial lawyer,” adding that he has “a great capacity for teaching in the courtroom, a very impressive mastery of the law and an easygoing style.” Ball recently received a defense verdict for Merck involving a wrongful death suit related to the drug Vioxx. He led the team in a five-week trial. The firm was co-lead counsel in a five-month trial in Sacramento, Calif., in a products liability class action suit involving Ford Explorers. Attorneys Peter Herzog and Strauss represented Ford Motor Company in five consolidated class actions in what is considered to be the one of the largest class actions ever to proceed to trial against an automobile manufacturer. The class was claiming a denomination in value of Explorers because of alleged rollover propensity, seeking \$2 billion. Plaintiffs dropped their jury claim and the case settled favorably for Ford on the morning of closing arguments. “His experience lends itself to our type of work,” says one client. “He could handle the caseload and we moved over a

number of cases to him and the firm.”

Also recognized as a powerhouse in the region is **Craig O’Dear**, who focuses his practice on general commercial litigation and some insurance and products liability work. Bryan Cave “has a strong litigation group,” says one peer. “Craig has had a string of strong results”. Based in the Kansas City office, O’Dear has kept busy with a series of recent successes. He recently aided in the representation of a Sprint subsidiary in a suit filed in Rhode Island, alleging that Nacepf entered into agreements with Clearwire which triggered Sprint’s rights of first refusal. In a separate matter, he helped represent Sprint in a breach of contract suit against SpeedNet in the US District Court of Western Missouri. Sprint had a contract with SpeedNet giving it “right of first offer” covering SpeedNet spectrum assets valued in excess of \$30 million then SpeedNet entered into an agreement to sell to Clearwire, in violation of the right of first offer. He also recently won a major antitrust case for a healthcare provider client. With particular experience in the area of securities litigation, **William Perry Brandt** is named as the go-to litigator for representing issuers, underwriters and others in connection with alleged securities law and related claims. He has representative experience in matters before self-regulatory agencies and state securities commissioners, as well as before the SEC. Brandt is also noted for his employment defense and class and derivative litigation. As managing partner of the Kansas City office, **Robert Thompson** has seen “strong results.” He recently represented H&R Block in a number of actions filed across the country, going up against the State of New York and a class in California. Clients attest that Thompson “does a good job with globally managing cases to make sure the firms relate to each other” and that he “does a good job at coordinating the cases and information amongst the case.” With more than 30 years of experience in all types of government contract matters, **Charles**

Local litigation firms

Highly recommended

Bryan Cave

Husch Blackwell Sanders

Lathrop & Gage

Rouse Hendricks German May

Shughart Thomson & Kilroy

Recommended

Armstrong Teasdale

Berkowitz Oliver Williams Shaw & Eisenbrandt

Kohn Shands Elbert Gianoulakis & Giljum

Lewis Rice & Fingersh

Polsinelli Shalton Flanigan Suelthaus

Shook Hardy & Bacon

Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal

Stinson Morrison Hecker

Thompson Coburn

“His experience lends itself to our type of work,’ says one client. ‘He could handle the caseload and we moved over a number of cases to him and the firm.’ ”

-Peter Herzog of Bryan Cave



Local litigation stars

Robert Adams Shook Hardy & Bacon	Robert Henderson Shughart Thomson & Kilroy	William Sampson Shook Hardy & Bacon
Dan Ball Bryan Cave	Jeffrey Kalinowski Husch Blackwell Sanders	Scott Saylor Shook Hardy & Bacon
Lawrence Berkowitz Berkowitz Oliver Williams Shaw & Eisenbrandt	Harvey Kaplan Shook Hardy & Bacon	Robert Thompson Bryan Cave
William Perry Brandt Bryan Cave	Alan Kohn Kohn Shands Elbert Gianoulakis & Giljum	James Virtel Armstrong Teasdale
Douglas Dalgleish Lathrop & Gage	Paul Kovacs Armstrong Teasdale	Thomas Walsh Bryan Cave
James Eisenbrandt Berkowitz Oliver Williams Shaw & Eisenbrandt	Gary Long Shook Hardy & Bacon	Lawrence Ward Shughart Thomson & Kilroy
David Everson Stinson Morrison Hecker	John Murphy Shook Hardy & Bacon	W Russell Welsh Polsinelli Shalton Flanigan Suelthaus
Gregory Fowler Shook Hardy & Bacon	Craig O'Dear Bryan Cave	Charles Weiss Bryan Cave
Charles German Rouse Hendricks German May	David Oliver Berkowitz Oliver Williams Shaw & Eisenbrandt	Jerome Wolf Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal
James Griffin Husch Blackwell Sanders	John Phillips Husch Blackwell Sanders	Curtis Woods Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal
Frank Gundlach Armstrong Teasdale	Joseph Rebein Shook Hardy & Bacon	

Weiss is singled out as a leader in complex litigation matters. He has also represented clients in a variety of antitrust, securities, products liability and construction-related disputes. Strengthening the firm's intellectual property practice are the recent additions of Bennett Clark, Michael Kahn and Edward Hejlek. Peers commend the intellectual property efforts of David Roodman in the St Louis office and the class action work of Charles Newman and John Michael Clear, both in St Louis as well.

A recent merger between Husch & Eppenberger and Blackwell Sanders has brought **Husch Blackwell Sanders** to the regional – and national – legal marketplace. The newly combined firm now has four offices in the state: St Louis, Kansas City, Jefferson City and Springfield. With the locations include 122 litigators in St Louis and 100 litigators in Kansas City. With Husch's strong presence in St Louis and Blackwell's main office in Kansas City, the combined firm has a massive hold in Missouri, especially in litigation. The firm recently represented Olin Corporation in a complex dispute with its primary and excess carriers over the payment of millions of dollars in environmental remediation cost at 100 environmental sites nationwide. After a month-long trial, a jury rendered a verdict favorable to Olin. Shortly after, four additional environmental sites were tried and a multimillion dollar verdict was obtained. In a six-day trial in St Louis County, the firm successfully represented a plaintiff client who outsourced golf club covers and related golf course accessories to China for production, but was never paid by patent holders for the

delivered product. Since the merger, the firm has upped the ante on its products liability, environmental and toxic tort work.

St Louis litigator **Jeff Kalinowski** is named by peers as an undeniable force in intellectual property and securities litigation. He recently defended Stifel Nicolaus in a raiding case in excess of \$10 million, with the claimant also seeking attorney's fees and punitive damages based on claims of fiduciary duties and unfair competition. An award in Stifel's favor was delivered after a seven-day arbitration. In a claim arising out of a customer's losses in WorldCom stock, Kalinowski successfully defended AG Edwards & Sons in a \$1 million case, with the customer seeking compensatory and other damages. An arbitration panel in Tennessee denied all of the customer's claims. **James Griffin** is also frequently mentioned as a strong litigator, working from the firm's Kansas City office. Focusing his practice on business and class actions, he is currently involved in several complex civil litigation matters. One class action currently pending involves hospital pricing to uninsured patients. The other is a nationwide suit alleging the wrongful measurement of natural gas at every natural gas well on private property in the country. He is recognized for his products liability work as well. Also in the Kansas City office is **John Phillips**, noted for his work in employment law and mediation. Phillips works frequently with AmeriCast Technologies, Dairy Farmers of America, Russell Stover Candies and Hallmark as representative clients. Other clients include Build-A-Bear Workshop, General Electric, Siemens Corporation and Sprint Nextel.

With six of its ten offices in Missouri, **Lathrop & Gage** certainly has locked in its hold as a strong presence in the state's legal marketplace. The Kansas City office holds an exponential amount of litigators compared to the other offices in St Louis, Clayton, Jefferson City and Springfield. In Kansas City, the firm specializes in a variety of litigation, while the smaller offices have discovered their niche in certain types of matters. A star in the firm's largest office, **Douglas Dalgleish** focuses on tort and business litigation as well as appellate work. He recently represented a railroad client in arbitration involving intermodal rail and trucking issues. Dalgleish also recently worked as lead trial counsel in the successful defense in a breach of coal supply utility contract lawsuit. In other litigation matters, the firm defended Premium Standard Farms, one of the world's largest producers of pork, in a temporary nuisance case in the state. After a three-week trial, the jury returned verdicts in favor of Premium Standard Farms, denying the plaintiffs claims of damages by odor from the farms. The firm also acted as lead counsel for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in the state's favorable settlement with Ameren Corporation over the collapse of the Taum Sauk Reservoir, widely considered the worst man-made disaster in the state's history.

Also noted for their litigation expertise are Kansas City-based attorneys Robyn Anderson, Patrick Fanning and Michael Williams. Anderson, who acts as the manager of the firm's insurance practice area, is noted for her significant experience negotiating and litigating coverage disputes involving the

Future stars

Robyn Anderson
Lathrop & Gage

Todd Bartels
Shughart Thomson & Kilroy

Sean Colligan
Stinson Morrison Hecker

Julie Cox
Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal

Dan Cranshaw
Lathrop & Gage

Laura Clark Fey
Shook Hardy & Bacon

Mark Iba
Stinson Morrison Hecker

Jennifer Kingston
Bryan Cave

Lee Marshall
Bryan Cave

Allison Murdock
Stinson Morrison Hecker

Robert Murray
Kohn Shands Elbert Gianoulakis & Giljum

Thomas Rottinghaus
Shughart Thomson & Kilroy

Todd Ruskamp
Shook Hardy & Bacon

Matthew Salzman
Stinson Morrison Hecker

Staci Schorgl
Bryan Cave

Jeremy Shook
Kohn Shands Elbert Gianoulakis & Giljum

James Sullivan
Shughart Thomson & Kilroy

Robert Useted
Kohn Shands Elbert Gianoulakis & Giljum

Trent Webb
Shook Hardy & Bacon

Michael Williams
Lathrop & Gage

Paul Williams
Shook Hardy & Bacon

Heather Esau Zenger
Bryan Cave

London insurance market. “She is making a name for herself as a go-to person in that area,” says one peer. Fanning is known for his complex commercial work and personal injury disputes, who tried several cases recently to successful results. Active in the labor and employment arena is Williams, who frequently represents employers in discrimination suits, as well as worker’s compensation and retaliation claims. Adding to the firm’s wealth is a series of recent lateral recruitments, including three new partners from Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal.

Litigation boutique **Rouse Hendricks German May** only boasts 13 attorneys, but the firm’s presence is widely known in the region. From its Kansas City location, the firm is praised for its work in telecommunications and class action disputes. Representing clients throughout the region and the country in complex commercial litigation matters, Rouse Hendricks lists Kansas City Power & Light, Stamina Products and Sprint as representative clients. While the firm does represent clients nationally, it keeps a strong focus on local clients in the Kansas City metropolitan area. The firm recently obtained a favorable settlement for its corporate plaintiff in excess of pretrial demand in the US District Court of Kansas. Another recent case saw the firm successfully representing Kansas City Power & Light, securing the utility company a \$452 million jury verdict on product liability claims arising from a power plant explosion. After trial court took away the verdict, the firm successfully appealed and the verdict was reinstated in full.

Competitors are quick to highlight the work of **Charles German**, with one saying he is “very strong” and that he “thinks a lot of him.” German works in a number of areas, including health care, class actions and professional responsibility, but he is best known for his white-collar criminal expertise. Recently, he has seen a shift towards non-compete and trade secret theft work.

While the firm has some niche areas like construction and medical malpractice defense, Kansas City-based **Shughart Thomson & Kilroy** is known for its overall business commercial litigation work. With the Kansas City office comprising a bulk of the firm’s 136 litigators, small litigation teams are also peppered throughout the firm’s three nearby offices in St Joseph, Springfield and Overland Park, Kan. The firm is particularly active in tort litigation, employment and healthcare work. The Kansas City office recently represented Carrier in a toxic tort case in Clay County. A defense verdict was returned in the personal injury products liability case in which plaintiffs were claiming severe lung injuries due to exposure to a chemical release from burned insulating foam. In a hospital case, the firm successfully defended Lafayette Regional Health Center in one of the first

jury trials in the region addressing the appropriate use of a clot busting drug in a patient experiencing an acute ischemic stroke. A defense verdict was returned to the hospital. In a class action case representing plaintiffs who claimed that engine coolant caused mechanical problems in certain models of General Motors vehicles manufactured between 1995 and 2003, Shughart Thomson litigators proved that the coolant, which was factory-filled in the vehicles, chemically degraded the gaskets and other parts of the engine. After more than four years of litigation, GM agreed to settle the case, paying class members amounts between \$50 and \$800.

Practicing in construction litigation, **Roy Bash** “has excellent work ethic” and “provides exceptional work product,” according to one client. Considered a heavy player in the state’s legal marketplace, he recently represented Black and Veatch Corporation as plaintiff against an ocean cargo carrier that damaged equipment which caused a delay in the installation at a power generating facility. Black and Veatch asserted a claim against the cargo insurance company to recover its cost, eventually settling for \$25 million. In an attempt to recover its cost against the builders all risk policy, a jury returned a verdict in favor of Black and Veatch for more than \$23 million. Bash, along with partner James Sullivan, also recently represented JE Dunn Construction, in which he defended the company after it allegedly failed to comply with the Affirmative Action Policy of the Tax Increment Financing Commission. The case presented a question of first impression under the commission’s policy, namely whether a minority business enterprise has standing to sue where it contended that both the contractor and developer failed to meet the policy’s thresholds. In trial court, summary judgment was granted to defendants, after plaintiffs sought damages in excess of \$10 million. Additional firm clients include Kansas City Power & Light, H&R Block and the Kansas City Police Department.

Recommended firms

St Louis-based **Armstrong Teasdale** has offices throughout the Midwest, as well as both coasts, cementing its status as a leading litigation firm in the region. The firm is active in commercial litigation, with special regard to products liability, securities intellectual property and construction law. The firm has also established a niche in medical malpractice litigation work. In its flourishing insurance defense work, Armstrong Teasdale counts four of the five life insurance companies in Missouri as clients.

Standing out from the pack is attorney **Paul Kovacs**, who concentrates his practice on construction litigation and products liability work, as well as medical malpractice. He has tried more than 300 cases to a jury verdict, including obtaining some of the largest

verdict results in the state. In 2006, he received the second largest business verdict and settlement in the state for his client, counting \$95 million. One year prior, he obtained one of the largest commercial judgments received in Missouri. Having tried more than 100 cases, **James Virtel's** experiences range across the commercial and class action litigation spectrum. He has defended cases involving product liability, electricity and gas, as well as various business and shareholder disputes. Focusing his litigation practice on products liability and commercial litigation, **Frank Gundlach** began his legal career as a trial attorney for the Department of Justice. Recently, Chief Judge David R Herndon appointed him to the Rules Committee of the Southern District of Illinois. The firm recently received a defense verdict in its representation of a manufacturer in a wrongful death products liability action arising from a fire and explosion at a gasoline bulk storage facility. The trial, which lasted three weeks, resulted in one of the year's largest defense verdicts in the state.

Although it has been just more than ten years since its inception, Kansas City firm **Berkowitz Oliver Williams Shaw & Eisenbrandt** has grown to a national presence, with big name companies seeking it out as local counsel. A team of 27 attorneys at the firm handles a wealth of business and commercial litigation, with an emphasis on class action and insurance defense and products liability work. The firm garnered a reputation for its handling of automotive matters and white-collar criminal work. Managing Partner **David Oliver** has extensive experience in class action work on both the state and federal levels. He is well-versed on counseling clients in alternative dispute resolution. Also a leader in mediation and arbitration is partner **Lawrence Berkowitz**, whose experience in antitrust, securities and insurance litigation has enhanced the firm's national reputation. With admissions in the Midwest and New Mexico, he splits his time between the two areas, focusing on his mediation and alternative dispute resolution practice. Partner **James Eisenbrandt** receives accolades for his white-collar criminal defense work, representing both corporations and individuals in matters involving health care, environmental and antitrust issues. Firm clients include American Family Mutual Insurance, Ford Motors, Mazda Motors of America and Morgan Stanley.

The team of 12 litigators at St Louis boutique **Kohn Shands Elbert Gianoulakis & Giljum** focuses on its representative client base in Missouri and southern Illinois. General commercial work remains the bulk of the matters the firm takes on, but attention is also paid to labor and employment defense. Clients praise the firm's "high degree of responsiveness" and "unusually high level of cost sensitivity," as well as using "very creative in litigation strategy and motions

practices." Partner **Alan Kohn** is recognized for his work in commercial matters and legal malpractice defense. Having tried more than 100 cases and 75 appeals, Kohn has represented both corporations and individuals in a variety of matters over the years, including antitrust, securities and class action litigation. Mark Brammer is also recognized for his "great depth of knowledge in employment law." Firm representative clients include Washington University, Laclede Gas, McKnight Place Administration and Major Brands.

The Missouri-based **Lewis Rice & Fingersh** has five offices in state, as well as shops in Kansas and Illinois, but a bulk of its strength

to locations in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Miami and the District of Columbia, among others. With more than 360 attorneys devoted to litigation, almost half are located within the firm's Missouri office. **Harvey Kaplan** leads the firm in its products liability work, having received praise for his experience in drug litigation. He recently represented Ambien in a nationwide class action in which he obtained a voluntary dismissal for his client. The case is pending in the US District Court of Southern New York and included more than 500 plaintiffs in the drug company's first federal putative class action. Partner **Robert Adams** is noted for his work in toxic tort, patent and insurance

"Clients praise the firm's 'high degree of responsiveness' and 'unusually high level of cost sensitivity,' as well as using 'very creative in litigation strategy and motions practices' "
-Kohn Shands Elbert Gianoulakis & Giljum

is centered in its St Louis office. Clients turn to the firm for a variety of litigation matters, including banking, class action, environmental, insurance, products liability and securities issues. Recent matters handled by the firm include representing major securities firms in claims of violations involving suitability, excessive trading and stock consolidation levels, as well as multidistrict litigation involving claims of market manipulation from corporate disclosure. Clients range from media entities to a number of names in the healthcare field.

Although known for their expertise in real estate and corporate work, **Polsinelli Shalton Flanagan Suelthaus** has recently grown to handle a wide-range of litigation matters. The firm's litigators represent clients in a variety of industries, including automotive, insurance, construction, telecommunications, pharmaceutical, medical device, public utility and transportation. Polsinelli recently opened offices in Washington, New York and Chicago, but serves a mostly local client base in the Midwest thanks to its flagship Kansas City office and locations in St Louis, Overland Park, Topeka and Edwardsville, Ill.

"Standout" lawyer **W Russell Welsh** also acts as the firm's chairman and chief executive officer, positions he has held for more than ten years. During this time, the firm has grown from 90 attorneys to more than 300 nationwide. Welsh has extensive litigation experience, with particular expertise in products liability, business torts, trade secrets and bankruptcy litigation. He also boasts an impressive number of clients in the automotive industry.

International powerhouse **Shook Hardy & Bacon** boasts a number of offices in the country, from its headquarters in Kansas City

areas, having recently represented a client in a legal malpractice case in Jackson County and defending a client in a toxic tort claim involving allegations of childhood leukemia caused by exposure to the defendant's product. **Gregory Fowler** co-chairs the firm's international litigation practice group and is a strong presence in the National Products Liability Division. He remains active in representing clients in individual cases and mass litigation involving tobacco, pharmaceutical and other products work. Internationally, Fowler has significant experience working with domestic counsel in products liability and other complex defense litigation in various Asian and European countries, as well as Australia.

Firm Chairman **John Murphy** has served as national counsel to big name clients like ConocoPhillips, Evenflo Company and Weil-McLain in products liability matters. As chair of the firm's general litigation division, **Joseph Rebein** specializes in complex litigation, including serving as lead counsel in antitrust, contract and securities class actions. He has a nationwide antitrust practice for pharmaceutical companies as well. **William Sampson** holds a broad practice, with successful results in breach of contract, consumer class action, fraud and securities matters. He recently acted as lead counsel in a breach of contract suit for defendant Miller Brewing Company in a \$500 million federal court action concerning an alleged breach of license agreement to brew beer in India. The court granted Miller's summary judgment motion and dismissed all of the plaintiff's claims. Sampson was also lead counsel in a class action against a retailer in Madison County, Ill., in which he succeeded in getting the action dismissed.

“Instrumental” litigator **Scott Sayler** devotes his practice exclusively to litigation, focusing his work on the defense of pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers involved in products liability and commercial litigation. Sayler currently serves as national counsel for Pfizer in the Neurontin litigation, keeping busy with matters involving products liability claims and class action claims. National Products liability litigation group chairman **Gary Long** has a long history of experience pertaining to products liability. His role as national counsel for Philip Morris and Lorillard led to his involvement in a number of high stakes matters in tobacco products liability claims. He recently scored a victory for Philip Morris after defeating class certification in a case brought under the Kansas Consumer Protection Act. Plaintiffs claimed that his client’s packaging and advertising in its light cigarettes were deceptive, but the US District Court for the District of Kansas concluded that class certification was inappropriate under the act.

Nationally, **Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal** holds offices in the nation’s largest business and financial hubs. The firm’s Missouri presence, made possible through office locations in both Kansas City and St Louis, consist of only a small percentage of the overall number of attorneys firmwide, but has developed a strong litigation practice. The offices in the state work hand-in-hand with the firm’s much larger Chicago office and special attention is paid to products liability matters, environmental cleanup cases, white-collar criminal defense and nationwide class actions. The firm recently assisted in a pro bono matter involving the sovereignty of American Indian tribal courts. Assisting in the representation of the

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, the federal suit challenged the authority of the tribe’s courts to hear a discrimination case brought by tribe members against a non-Indian bank.

Kansas City litigator **Curtis Woods** is praised for his complex civil, commercial and criminal litigation practice. He recently took on several high-profile cases in the antitrust and mortgage fraud areas. Concentrating his practice on complex civil and commercial litigation, fellow Kansas City partner **Jerome Wolf** has extensive experience with environmental, antitrust, intellectual property and construction litigation. Recently, he took an interest in work involving alternative dispute resolution. St Louis litigator **Joseph Colagiovanni** is also recognized for his work in the areas of real estate and construction.

The Kansas City office of Midwestern powerhouse **Stinson Morrison Hecker** contains nearly half of the firm’s overall litigation team, cementing it as a power in the state’s legal marketplace. “They are our go-to law firm,” one client says. “We can send pretty much anything their way.” With power players throughout various litigation specialties, special praise is given to the firm’s contract, antitrust and burgeoning intellectual property groups. Partner **David Everson** is singled out as a strong antitrust litigator in the state, with similar strength in the intellectual property arena as well. He served as special counsel for Enforcement for the Federal Trade Commission’s acting chairman.

Firm clients include Embarq Corporation, Great Plains Energy, Hallmark and Deloro Stellite Group. In a recent matter, the firm represented Deloro in a series of mass tort product liability suits filed by welders throughout the US, alleging that they have suffered neurological injuries caused by

breathing fumes while using Deloro’s welding products. The pending litigation involves approximately 2,000 plaintiffs against Deloro in more than 1,000 suits in seven states. The firm also fared well in US District Court of Nebraska after the judge dismissed a class action suit against its client, the Exchange Bank of Gibbon, Nebraska and its holding company, officers, directors and shareholders. Plaintiffs alleged the bank violated the National Bank Act, the Bank Holding Company Act and the Depository Institutions Deregulation and Monitoring Control Act of 1980 in charging usurious interest. Seeking more than \$75 million in damages, the court concluded that the plaintiffs failed to state facts to support their claim.

The litigation team at **Thompson Coburn** received a boost in casework due to a recent merger with the Chicago-based FagelHaber. Almost 75 percent of the firm’s attorneys are housed in the St Louis office, adding to its incredible influence in the area and establishing the firm as one of the premier practices in the Midwest. Thompson Coburn’s long record of handling complex litigation resulted in serious successes for the firm and its clients. Specifically, the firm excels in products liability, consumer class actions, tobacco and mass tort litigation. Representative clients include AT&T, Kawasaki Motors USA, Lorillard Tobacco Company and Union Pacific Railroad.

In construction matters, the firm recently represented the owner of a newly constructed office building in St Louis who was sued by the general contractor for \$26 million. The case was successfully moved from St Louis Circuit Court into arbitration, where arbitrators denied the contractor’s claim in full and awarded the owner the full amount of its counterclaim.