

KANSAS

Local litigation firms

Highly recommended

Hite Fanning & Honeyman

Spencer Fane Britt & Browne

Stinson Morrison Hecker

Recommended

Foulston Siefkin

Lathrop & Gage

Martin Pringle Oliver Wallace & Bauer

Polsinelli Shughart

Rebein Bangerter

Local litigation stars

J Nick Badgerow

Spencer Fane Britt & Browne
Antitrust, Employment Litigation, Intellectual Property

Martin Bauer

Martin Pringle Oliver Wallace & Bauer
Bankruptcy, Commercial Litigation, Products Liability

Scott Beeler

Lathrop & Gage
Complex Business Litigation

Daniel Crabtree

Stinson Morrison Hecker
Antitrust, Employment Litigation

Denise Drake

Spencer Fane Britt & Browne
Commercial Litigation, Employment Litigation

Thomas Hamill

Martin Pringle Oliver Wallace & Bauer
Complex Commercial Litigation

Mark Hinderks

Stinson Morrison Hecker
Business Litigation, Intellectual Property

Richard Hite

Hite Fanning & Honeyman
Civil Litigation, Products Liability

Richard Honeyman

Hite Fanning & Honeyman
Business Litigation, Professional Liability

Stephen Kerwick

Foulston Siefkin
Appellate, Insurance

Greg Musil

Polsinelli Shughart
Aviation, Commercial Litigation

Robert Martin

Martin Pringle Oliver Wallace & Bauer
Aviation, Insurance, Products Liability

David Rebein

Rebein Bangerter
Complex Commercial Litigation

Future stars

Holly Dyer
Foulston Siefkin

Jennifer Hannah
Lathrop & Gage



KANSAS

Most Kansas firms are based in Wichita, Overland Park, or Topeka. The state has long been a hotbed for aviation issues since the manufacturing centers of Boeing, Beech, Cessna and Learjet are located in Wichita, the unofficial “Air Capital” of the U.S.

Highly recommended firms

Hite Fanning & Honeyman

Based in Wichita, Hite Fanning & Honeyman is a boutique firm with a reputable litigation practice. The firm’s litigation team is experienced in a wide variety of matters including intellectual property, securities fraud, trade secrets and toxic torts. Best known for its insurance defense and automobile liability work, the firm has recently experienced an increase in contract claims coming from its small business clients.

Richard Hite is well-regarded for his work on civil litigation and products liability. In recent years he has taken on an increasing number of environmental cases. Hite is the chair of the Kansas Supreme Court Nominating Commission. Richard Honeyman dedicates his practice to civil litigation and professional liability litigation. In particular, Honeyman stands out for his insurance defense and medical malpractice work. He is a member of the Starkey Foundation, an organization that provides financial assistance to persons with disabilities.

Spencer Fane Britt & Browne

Spencer Fane Britt & Browne has established itself as one of the more prominent firms in the Midwest. In addition to its Overland Park office, the firm has locations in Nebraska (Omaha) and Missouri (Kansas City, Jefferson City and St. Louis). The firm’s Overland Park office has 16 lawyers who are skilled in labor and employment litigation. In order to efficiently share time-sensitive information between its partners, the firm opted to produce webcasts. These webcasts have helped the firm stay in better communication with its clients and alleviate travel costs.

Called a “great lawyer” by his peers, J. Nick Badgerow manages a strong practice in construction, intellectual property and trade secrets litigation. His employment practice is vast; he has defended employers on issues of discrimination, negligence, professional responsibility, and wrongful termination. He serves as partner-in-charge of the Overland Park office. Based in Missouri and Kansas, Denise Drake is known for her success in commercial and employment litigation matters. She has served as the lead attorney in high-stakes multi-plaintiff and multi-defendant cases.

Stinson Morrison Hecker

The Kansas litigation team of Stinson Morrison Hecker is considered to be “highly capable and well-regarded” by competitors. The team comprises 22 litigators spread across the firm’s Overland Park and Wichita offices. Although the partners capable of handling a variety of issues, the firm specializes in employment, environmental and intellectual property litigation. Due to a surge in economic growth in the Johnson

“The Kansas litigation team of Stinson Morrison Hecker is considered to be 'highly capable and well-regarded' by competitors. [Name partner] Mark Hinderks continues to receive accolades for his securities and class action defense practices.”

County region, the Overland Park office has experienced an upswing in business-related litigation. Clients include Sprint Nextel Corporation and Quest Resource Corporation. The firm’s Wichita office has been singled out for its strong aviation practice, having assisted notable clients like Cessna Aircraft Company. In addition, partner Ronald Williams serves as a board member of the Kansas Aviation Museum.

Daniel Crabtree is the managing partner of the Overland Park office. He is highly regarded for his handling of antitrust, class action, and complex commercial matters. He has represented the Kansas City Royals in litigation concerning Senator George Mitchell’s investigation of performance enhancing drug use in Major League Baseball. Previous clients include the University of Kansas, Hustler Lawn Mowers and the state of Kansas.

Mark Hinderks continues to receive accolades for his securities and class action defense practices, with competitors calling him “knowledgeable” in those arenas.

Recommended firms

Foulston Siefkin

With close to 90 attorneys across offices in Wichita, Topeka, and Overland Park, Foulston Siefkin continues to be held in high esteem. Since its formation in 1919 in Wichita, the firm has enjoyed a high lawyer retention rate. The firm houses an

exceptional employment group complemented by a strong insurance defense practice. Stephen Kerwick excels at insurance defense litigation and appellate matters. Holly Dyer’s practice emphasizes tort defense and medical and professional liability litigation.

Lathrop & Gage

With offices in Missouri, New York, Colorado, California and Washington, D.C. as well as Kansas, Lathrop & Gage has established a strong multi-state presence. The Overland Park office comprises 80 staff members (23 of whom are litigators) and has strong construction and employment litigation practices. The Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed a lower court’s summary judgment on behalf of the firm’s clients, defendants in the *Vesom v. Atchison Hospital* case. The plaintiff unsuccessfully alleged racial discrimination as the cause of

his loss of staff privileges at the hospital and asked for \$18 million in damages. The firm also counsels various financial institutions, media companies and government agencies.

Scott Beeler is the head of the firm’s real estate litigation group and also focuses on complex business litigation. He has acted as lead counsel for clients like Bell Development, ScriptPro LLC, Shawnee Indian Tribe, Stanley Bank and Security Savings Bank. Beeler has been tapped to testify in hearings before the Kansas House of Representatives and Senate and co-authored the Kansas Paramutuel Racing Act.

Martin Pringle Oliver Wallace & Bauer

Regarded as one of the premier firms in the Midwest, Martin Pringle Oliver Wallace & Bauer has offices in Overland Park and Wichita. The firm has a distinguished appellate practice and its partners have argued cases before the Kansas City Court of Appeals, Kansas Supreme Court, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. The appellate practice is especially strong in handling employment and energy matters.

Robert Martin possesses over 50 years of trial experience in insurance, aviation and products liability. He has a long-standing client relationship with Raytheon Aircraft Company and helped to draft the General Aviation Revitalization Act of 1994. Name partner Martin Bauer’s practice focuses on

civil defense and bankruptcy work. **Thomas Hamill** stands out for his commercial work, with over 35 years of litigation experience under his belt.

Polsinelli Shughart

Polsinelli Shughart, the result of a February 2009 merger between Polsinelli Shalton Flanigan Suelthaus and Shughart Thomson & Kilroy, has established a strong foothold in the Midwest. The firm's Overland Park office handles trade secrets litigation, shareholder disputes and other aspects of business litigation. One client complimented the firm's ability to "build a solid team."

Greg Musil is regarded as a strong trial attorney, and peers describe him as a "top tier business litigator." Clients include Learjet Inc., Carrier Corporation and Applied Resources. Most recently, Musil represented Learjet and Bombardier in breach of warranty, breach of contract and fraud claims against a component parts manufacturer relating to the Learjet Model 45 business aircraft. The case was settled shortly before trial after a favorable ruling was obtained on behalf of Musil's clients.

Rebein Bangerter

Located in Dodge City, Rebein Bangerter enjoys a strong reputation in western Kansas. The firm specializes in litigating personal injury and workers' compensation cases. The firm represents a wide assortment of clients, from local entrepreneurs to Fortune 500 companies. Name partner **David Rebein** has emerged as a top lawyer in the state; he primarily handles agricultural issues, contract disputes and construction litigation. Rebein was president of the Kansas Bar Association in 2006, and served as a member of the Citizenship Advisory Committee of the Kansas Sunflower Foundation from 2005 to 2007.

