



Brenda Hamilton
Shareholder
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AV® rated (highest rating)
Martindale-Hubbell

Attorney Profile

Brenda Hamilton

Brenda Hamilton handles a wide variety of civil litigation, representing major companies and individuals in state and federal courts across the nation. Her practice focuses on business disputes, insurance coverage, product liability, class action defense, employment, and professional liability matters. Ms. Hamilton has significant trial experience, and has won or reduced in scope many multi-million dollar cases based on pretrial motions.

Ms. Hamilton is a founding Director and Shareholder of Shank & Hamilton. She has attained an AV® rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest awarded. Through statewide peer-review, Ms. Hamilton was selected as a *Missouri and Kansas Super Lawyer* in 2005-2008, and one of the *Top 50 Missouri and Kansas Women Lawyers*. Ms. Hamilton represents Shank & Hamilton as a Go-To Law Firm® for Leading Financial Services Companies. She is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of American Trial Lawyers Honorary Society. She also is a court-approved mediator covering various types of civil litigation matters and business disputes.

Ms. Hamilton also has been a Special Representative of the Missouri Supreme Court's Fourth Regional Disciplinary Committee, an editor/reviewer of the *Missouri Tort Law Deskbook*, and a frequent CLE speaker. She is an author of the Defense Research Institute's State-by-state *Compendium on Trade Secrets and Covenants Not to Compete* which will be published in 2008.

Ms. Hamilton was a federal judicial clerk for the Honorable D. Brook Bartlett (W.D. Missouri) from 1990-92, and graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia Law School (summa cum laude, Order of the Coif) in 1990, where she was Associate Managing Editor of the Missouri Law Review.

Admitted to Practice

- Missouri State Courts (1990)
- Iowa State Courts (2003)
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri
- United States District Court for the District of Kansas
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
- United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Iowa

Professional Positions

- Director/Shareholder, Shank & Hamilton, PC Kansas City, Missouri October 1997 - Present
- Associate, Rouse, Hendricks, German, May & Shank, P.C. Kansas City, Missouri August 1993 to October 1997
- Associate, Shughart, Thomson & Kilroy, P.C. Kansas City, Missouri September 1992 to August 1993
- Law Clerk, Honorable D. Brook Bartlett, Chief Judge United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri August 1990 to August 1992

Educational History

University of Missouri School of Law Columbia, Missouri

- Juris Doctor, summa cum laude, May 1990
- Class Rank: Top 10% (4th of 153)
- *Missouri Law Review*, Associate Managing Editor
- Order of the Coif
- Charles G. Young, Jr. Memorial Award for Exemplary Work in Professional Ethics
- Guy A. Thompson Grand Prize for Best Case Note
- Harry P. Thomson Trial Advocacy Competition, Best Defendant's Brief, 1989
- Author of: Note, Expert Testimony on the Reliability of Eye Witness Identifications: A Critical Analysis of its Admissibility, 54 Mo. L. Rev. 733 (1989)

University of Missouri-Columbia Columbia, Missouri

- May 1987, B.A., Economics, summa cum laude (9th of 466)
- Phi Beta Kappa
- Woodward Award to Outstanding Senior Economics Student

Professional Affiliations

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Martindale-Hubbell

The Missouri Bar

The Iowa Bar

American Bar Association

Torts and Insurance Law Section

- Products, General Liability, and Consumer Law Committee
- Professionals', Officers', and Directors' Liability Committee
- Excess, Surplus Lines, and Reinsurance Committee
- Trial Techniques Committee

Litigation Section

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee
- Class Actions & Derivative Suits Committee
- Commercial & Business Litigation Committee
- Employment & Labor Relations Committee
- Ethics & Professionalism Committee
- Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee
- Intellectual Property Litigation Committee
- Trial Evidence Committee

Labor and Employment Law Section

Defense Research Institute

- Commercial Litigation Committee
- Employment Law Committee
- Insurance Law Committee
- Product Liability Committee
- Business Torts Special Law Group
 - Webinar Subcommittee

Go-To Law Firm® for Leading Financial Services Companies

Litigation Counsel of American Trial Lawyers Honorary Society

- Fellow

Association of Missouri Mediators

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association

- Federal Courts Committee
- Business Torts Committee

Missouri Organization of Defense Lawyers

Association of Women Lawyers

Mediation Services

Ms. Hamilton is a trained, court-approved mediator, offering mediation services to litigants involved in various types of disputes, including commercial litigation, business torts, employment matters, insurance coverage, product liability, professional liability, class action matters, and other types of matters.

She is approved and eligible to handle mediations in cases pending in various Missouri and Kansas state and federal courts.

Publications

- “*State-By-State Compendium on Trade Secrets and Covenants Not to Compete: Kansas Trade Secrets*,” published by Defense Research Institute (2008).