

William S. Thomas

Principal



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314.335.1360

Licensure:

- ◆ Missouri
- ◆ Illinois
- ◆ United States District Courts:
 - Eastern District of Missouri
 - Central District of Illinois
 - Southern District of Illinois
- ◆ United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

Rated AV



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Focus:

- ◆ Construction Law
- ◆ Commercial Liability
- ◆ Transportation
- ◆ Design Professional Liability
- ◆ Product Liability

Education:

- ◆ University of Notre Dame
B.A., Government, 1991
- ◆ Saint Louis University
J.D., 1994

Affiliations:

- ◆ The Missouri Bar Association
Construction Law Committee
- ◆ The Bar Association of Metropolitan Saint Louis
Member-at-Large, Young Lawyers Division, 1997 - 1999
- ◆ The Missouri Organization of Defense Lawyers
- ◆ Lawyers Association of St. Louis
Executive Committee Member, 2000-2003
Treasurer, 2003-2004
Secretary, 2004-2005
Second Vice President, 2005-2006
First Vice President, 2006-2007
President-Elect, 2007-2008
- ◆ Defense Research Institute
Construction Law Committee
- ◆ American Institute of Architects
- ◆ American Society of Civil Engineers

Background:

- ◆ Principal, Rabbitt, Pitzer & Snodgrass, P.C. (2000 – Present)
- ◆ Associate, Rabbitt, Pitzer & Snodgrass, P.C. (1994 – 2000)
- ◆ Law Clerk, St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office (1993 – 1994)
- ◆ Summer Intern, United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Missouri (Summer, 1993)



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Publications and Seminars:

- ◆ Assisted in the preparation of “The Liability of Design Professionals to Third Party Non-Clients for the International Association of Defense Counsel Construction Law Seminar,” Spring, 1997
- ◆ Co-Author: “Defending Design Professionals: Is Contract Language an Adequate Shield?” 64 Defense Counsel Journal 389 (July 1991)
- ◆ Faculty Member, “Missouri and Illinois Law for Design Professionals,” Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, 1997, 1998 & 1999
- ◆ Faculty Member, “Missouri Construction Law: Can this Job Be Saved?” Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri 2000
- ◆ Author: “Professional Responsibility for Design Documents,” 14 Missouri Lawyers Weekly 952 (August 7, 2000)
- ◆ Various articles and casenotes published in “The Critical Path,” the publication of the Defense Research Institute’s Construction Law Committee
- ◆ Staff Reporter, St. Louis Lawyer Magazine, the monthly magazine of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis (1997 – 1999)
- ◆ Presenter, “Liability Issues in Construction Contracts,” Seminar, Charles L. Crane Agency Company, St. Louis, Missouri, May 2001
- ◆ Faculty Member, “Construction Claims in Missouri,” Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, August, 2001
- ◆ Faculty Member, “Inside the Jury Box: An In-depth Discussion of Juror Perspectives,” Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, August 2001
- ◆ Faculty Member, “Claim Prevention for Missouri Design Professionals,” Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, January, 2002
- ◆ Faculty Member, “Let’s Make a Deal: Understanding Construction Contracts” Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, May, 2002
- ◆ Faculty Member, “Solving Water Intrusion and Mold Problems in Missouri” Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, December, 2002
- ◆ Faculty Member, “Water Intrusion and Toxic Mold Claims,” Topic: Defending Mold Claims, Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, May, 2004



William S. Thomas

- ◆ Co-Author, Missouri Bar CLE Deskbook Series, *Professional Liability Deskbook*, Chapter 4, "Design Professional Liability" (2005)
- ◆ Presenter, "Product Liability Essentials: Hints, Pointers and Tips for Handling Missouri Product Liability Claims," Seminar, Gallagher Bassett Agency, St. Louis, Missouri, November, 2005
- ◆ Faculty Member, "Legal Issues for Missouri Professional Engineers," Topic: Complying with Laws and Regulations on the Practice and Unauthorized Practice of Professional Engineering, Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, November, 2005
- ◆ Faculty Member, "The Fundamentals of Construction Contracts: Understanding the Issues in Illinois," Topic: Contractual Relationships with Design Professionals, Seminar, Fairview Heights, Illinois, January, 2006
- ◆ Author, "Redevelopment and Remodeling Projects Pose Different Risks for Designers," Law Day Collection of Articles: The Legal Side of Redevelopment, Rehab, Renovation & Rental, Published by the Missouri Bar, May 2006
- ◆ Faculty Member, "Tort Reform in Missouri: One Year Later: 'Are We There Yet?'" Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, June, 2006
- ◆ Faculty Member, "Product Liability," Topic: Depositions of Parties, Corporate Representatives, and Mediation Strategies, Seminar, Chicago, Illinois, July, 2006
- ◆ Faculty Member, "Design Law for Missouri Architects and Engineers," Topic: Laws and Regulations Governing the Design Process, Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, September, 2006
- ◆ Faculty Member, "How Design Documents Can Prevent or Cause Construction Claims in Missouri," Topic: Regulations and Statutes Relating to Designers, Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, January, 2007.
- ◆ Faculty Member, "Legal Issues for Missouri Design Professionals," Topic: Professional Conduct and the Standard of Care, Seminar, St. Louis, Missouri, May, 2007.