



Kimbley A. Kearney

PARTNER

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Biography

Kim is rated AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking in legal ability and ethical standards as determined by her peers in the legal community. She manages the firm's Indiana office, and maintains practices there and in Chicago. Kim's work involves every aspect of civil litigation including jury trials, arguing appeals, and analyzing insurance coverage issues. She has successfully litigated cases involving catastrophic personal injury, toxic tort, premises liability, employment discrimination, municipal defense, insurance coverage, commercial disputes, and ocean marine transportation in numerous jurisdictions in the United States. She has trained at the prestigious Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at the Pepperdine University School of Law and is an experienced mediator. Kim is licensed to practice law in Illinois, Indiana and New York.

Kim is one of only 500 members of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers. Membership in the Academy is by invitation only to persons who possesses a reputation of recognized distinction as an appellate lawyer. Kim has briefed and argued cases in state supreme courts, United States courts of appeals and state intermediary appellate courts throughout the country. Her appellate victories include several cases of first impression.

Because of Kim's combined trial and appellate experience, she is frequently retained in high profile cases nationwide to provide clients and their trial counsel with an independent evaluation of potential liability and exposure for damages, develop winning strategies for resolution before, during, and after trial, and craft the most effective legal arguments to be advanced in dispositive motions, motions *in limine*, directed verdict motions, jury instructions, and appellate briefs.

Kim is also a Proctor in Admiralty, a former member of the Board of Directors of the Maritime Law Association of the United States, and an Associate Editor of American Maritime Cases.

Kim finds the most satisfying aspect of her practice is developing a relationship with her clients and working hard to achieve their objectives. Whether a case involves casualty, a business dispute, employer liability, or an insurance matter, Kim believes that she is

uniquely qualified to provide her clients with realistic, cost-effective, and result oriented counsel because she knows how to scrutinize a case and position it for the best possible outcome in trial court, on appeal and in mediation. Her M.B.A. degree gives her an extra advantage in helping her to address the challenges faced by her business clients.

Kim is enjoying strengthening her ties to the community in Northwest Indiana. She is active in the Michigan City Chamber of Commerce and is very proud to have been appointed to the Board of Directors of Dunebrook, a not-for-profit organization focused on the prevention of child abuse.



Education

J.D. Tulane University Law School, *cum laude*, 1984

M.B.A. Tulane University, 1984

B.A. St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, 1980

Professional Skills Program, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at the Pepperdine University School of Law

Bar Admissions

Illinois

Indiana

New York

Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Courts of Appeals, Fifth Circuit

U.S. Courts of Appeals, Seventh Circuit

U.S. Courts of Appeals, Eighth Circuit

U.S. Courts of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

U.S. Courts of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois including Trial Bar

U.S. District Court, Northern District of

Memberships

Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel

American Academy of Appellate Lawyers

Defense Research Institute

Former member of the Board of Directors of the Maritime Law Association of the United States, Active Member of the Committees on Uniformity of U.S. Maritime Law (Former Chair), Marine Insurance &

Indiana

U.S. District Court, Southern District of
Indiana

General Average, Recreational Boating

Property & Liability Resource Bureau

Associate Editor, American Maritime
Cases

Armadillo (Coverage) Club

Lake and LaPorte County, Indiana Bar
Associations

Michigan City Chamber of Commerce

Awards

Martindale-Hubbell AV® rating

Super Lawyers® 2021