



LAUREL STEVENSON, Esq.

HADEN, COWHERD & BULLOCK, LLC

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Admissions: Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa & Wisconsin
J.D. University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law

Experience

Partner-Haden Cowherd & Bullock LLC, Springfield, Missouri

Services include appeals, complex claims and litigation involving transportation liability, professional liability, contracts, products liability, premises liability, agent errors and omissions, and insurance issues, including bad faith, vexatious refusal, arson, fraud and coverage. Provide risk management and assessment services including communications, evidence preservation, and leadership training. Serve as a mediator and arbitrator.

Secured summary judgment on a fire loss claim for breach of contract involving more than \$750,000.

Served as local counsel in a propane explosion case, helping to secure summary judgment in matter involving more than \$1.5 million in medical specials.

Served on special committee for major transportation client regarding traumatic injury claims and regulatory issues.

Awarded co-grant with a transportation consulting firm for research and assessment of additional insured issues in construction and transportation contracts and disputes.

Other experience includes:

First-chaired more than 65 jury trials in Missouri on behalf of defendants since 1998 with multiple defense verdicts.

Recognized for two of the top defense verdicts in a given year in Missouri, including a case of first impression involving professional liability claims where the plaintiff sought more than \$30 million in damages.

Advice and counsel to third-party administrator regarding claims and litigation in eight states, including coverage issues, and liability claims and defenses.

Manage and supervise litigation in several states involving dram shop, day cares, and other professional liability and complex litigation matters.

Negotiated resolution of a fire loss claim in excess of \$1 million.

Achieved favorable resolutions for carriers involving vexatious refusal and bad faith claims, including a directed verdict in a first-party case where the insured sought more than \$1 million in damages.

Provide training and education to insurance adjusters and agents and small business owners.

Examinations under oath.

Negotiated commercial leases for an 110,000 square foot commercial building.

Advice and counsel to Dutch-owned corporation on a variety of employment issues, including hiring and firing, discrimination, and harassment. Drafted employment policies. Successfully defended company in a sexual harassment case that went to the 7th Circuit, and for which transfer was sought by the plaintiff to the United States Supreme Court, and rejected by the Court.

Legislative presentations to the Business and Torts Committee of the Wisconsin State Senate.

Involved in implementation of Wisconsin's Welfare to Work Initiatives, including drafting legislation.

Approved presenter for both CE credits for insurance professionals and CLE credits for attorneys, including ethics presentations.

Affiliations

Admitted to practice in all federal courts in Arkansas, Missouri and Wisconsin and before the United States Supreme Court and the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Memberships/Organizations:

Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association (2012 Chair, Trial Practice Committee; 2013 Chair, Membership Committee; currently serving three-year term on Board of Directors)

American Bar Association (Litigation Section and ADR Section)

Missouri Bar, Insurance Committee and ADR Committee

Transportation Lawyers Association

Defense Research Institute

Springfield Claims Association

National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel

National Association of Professional Women

Missouri Organization of Defense Lawyers

Fellow, American Bar Foundation

Facilitator, Missouri Fee Dispute Program (serving four-year term; previously served four-year term as Facilitator, Missouri Complaint Resolution Program). Assist in resolving disputes of clients regarding fee disputes against attorneys.

Activities

Advisory Group, Laura's Home, 2014-2015 (transitional program for 16-21 year old girls)

Planning Group, Mental Health & the Law, 2015

Excellence Award in Student Engagement, Drury University 2013

Trial College Faculty, University of Missouri-Columbia 2013

Trial College Faculty, NARTC, Irving, TX 2012 and 2014

Panel Member, Lathrop & Gage 8th Annual State of Litigation, The Disappearing Jury Trial-Options & Solutions, 2012

Executive Leadership Team, American Heart Association (AHA) Go Red 2013; Auction Committee 2014; Go Red 2014; Go Red 2015

Team Leader for Team Lathrop, American Heart Association Heart Walk 2013; Team Co-Chair for Team Brumley for American Heart Association Heart Walk 2014

Volunteer, Samaritan, Springdale, AR, 2012

Member, St. Agnes Catholic Church

Assist with disaster relief services-Hurricane Katrina and Joplin tornado of 2011

Judge, Drury University Mock Trial Competition -2006

Past President, Drury University Alumni Association

Assist with Drury Business Incubator Project with SIFE and Breech School of Business-2004-2005

Chair, Drury University Legal Professionals-2010

Editor and Reviewer for Missouri Continuing Education Publications on *Insurance Law and Evidence*

Speaker, *Insurance Days* 2006 – *Premises Liability and Joint and Several Liability*

Instructor, *Witness Preparation*, ANPAC MIST Training, 2007

Speaker, *Insurance Days* 2007 – *Comparative Fault and UM/UIIM*

Speaker, Springfield Claims Association, *Electronic Discovery*, January 2008

Instructor, NBI, *Bad Faith Litigation and Common Ethical Issues*, February 2008

Speaker, *Insurance Days* 2008 – *Settlement Demands and Settlement Issues*

Speaker, *Insurance Days* 2009 – *Claims Evaluation*

Speaker, *Insurance Days* 2010-*Fraud Issues*

Speaker, *Using Social Media in Claims and Litigation*, ANPAC MIST Training 2010

Speaker, *Insurance Days* 2012-*Excess and Umbrella Insurance*

Speaker, *Boots on the Ground*-Midwest Accident Reconstruction 2013

Speaker, *Social Media*, Drury University's Non-Profit Communications Conference 2014

Speaker, *Spine Injuries*, ANPAC MIST Training, 2015