



Christopher L. Goodman

Partner

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651-389-5025

An experienced litigator with first-chair trial experience, Chris Goodman has successfully defended clients at trial and on appeal. Chris routinely advises and defends insurance companies with coverage and bad faith disputes, has prevailed in class action lawsuits, and has successfully defended attorneys, doctors, nurses, architects, surveyors and appraisal management companies from professional liability claims.

Representative Experience

CLASS ACTION

Motion to dismiss granted in putative class action involving 60,000 corn growers who sued their former counsel under the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act, as well as under various Minnesota statutes and common law theories. The putative class sought disgorgement of our clients' attorney's fees in excess of \$100 million.

Kellogg v. Watts Guerra, LLP, et al., Case No. 18-2408-JWL, United States District Court for the District of Kansas

CASUALTY LITIGATION

Summary judgment granted in numerous first-party insurance claims alleging property damage caused by hail.

Summary judgment dismissing first-party claim arising out of broken pipe and resulting water damage in insured's home.

Syfko v. Encompass Indemnity Co., 2013 WL 4409430 (D. Minn. 2013)

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

Summary judgment of all claims asserted against architect.

Dismissal of claims asserted against appraisal management company in case filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

INSURANCE COVERAGE

Secured a judgment of over \$1.8 million in a coverage dispute between excess insurers arising out of a construction defect claim. The judgment included 100% of the client's attorney's fees. The case settled shortly after Chris defeated the defendant insurer's motion to stay enforcement of the judgment.

Recovered over \$1 million in coverage dispute arising out of multiple insurers' duty to defend a common insured from a construction defect claim.

PRODUCT LIABILITY

Tried to verdict personal injury claim defending global crane and lifting equipment manufacturer in which liability and damages were contested.

Summary judgment in multimillion-dollar product defect claim involving a quadriplegic who fell from a ladder.

Lenzen v. Garon Products, Inc., 2011 WL 5177713 (D. Minn. 2011)

Developed nationwide defense strategy for global crane manufacturer used to secure dismissals in asbestos claims across the country.

Summary judgment in numerous product liability claims arising out of manufacture and/or sale of asbestos-containing products.

Awards & Recognition

MINNESOTA SUPER LAWYERS

Rising Star

2005-2009, 2011, 2013

Related Services

[Construction](#)

[Insurance](#)

[Professional Liability](#)

Publications & Speaking Engagements

[Minnesota Courts Adopt "Harvesting," Determine that Statutory Interest Accrues on the Replacement Cost Value of an Appraisal Award](#)

Jun 8, 2022

The Minnesota Supreme Court Adopts the Predominant Purpose Test for Determining Whether Documents are Protected by the Attorney-Client Privilege

Dec 15, 2021

Minnesota Supreme Court Holds Hospital Liable For Negligence of Independent Contractor Physicians

Aug 12, 2020

Dentist Sues Cincinnati Insurance Over Pandemic Coverage

Apr 20, 2020

Chicago Area Businesses File Suit for Denied Business Interruption Claims

Mar 31, 2020

The Minnesota Supreme Court Holds the Uniform Arbitration Act Does Not Apply to Appraisals of Property Damage Claims Resulting From Fire

Mar 4, 2020

Minnesota Supreme Court Adopts New Product Manufacturer Post-Sale Duty to Warn Test

May 11, 2018

Claims Handling in the Frozen Tundra

TCW webinar

April 2018

Education, Admissions & Activities

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota Law School

J.D., 1998

National Moot Court Competition Team, Member

Maynard Pirsig Moot Court, Finalist

Hamline University

B.A., summa cum laude, 1995

Political Science and Philosophy

Phi Beta Kappa

BAR ADMISSIONS

Wisconsin

2010

North Dakota

2010

California

2007

Minnesota

1998

COURT ADMISSIONS

United States District Court, Minnesota

United States District Court of Wisconsin
Eastern and Western

United States District Court of Arkansas
Eastern District

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

California State Bar Association

Minnesota State Bar Association

North Dakota State Bar Association

Wisconsin State Bar Association

Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM)

Professional Liability Underwriting Society (PLUS)