



Candice C. Kusmer

Partner

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212-404-0487

Candice Kusmer is a litigator with a focus on concise written and oral advocacy. She appreciates the challenges that come with complex civil litigation, synthesizing intricate facts and concepts into a clear, approachable argument. And because few cases actually make it to trial, strategic briefing can relegate a complicated matter to favorable, early resolution.

Candice infuses collaboration and creativity into every case, listening to her clients' needs with an eye towards innovative solutions. Over the course of her career, she has secured thousands of dismissals and negotiated hundreds of settlements through careful case preparation and building upon solid professional relationships.

Candice's litigation and appellate practices often involve product, premises, and personal injury liability claims, including exposures to toxic substances. She has served as local, regional, and national coordinating counsel for multiple corporations, including both Fortune 100 and 500 companies.

Representative Experience

Collaborating with New York local counsel, simultaneously secured three summary judgments for product manufacturer based on plaintiffs' lack of causation in three individual appeals to New York's Appellate Division, First Department.

Dyer v. Amchem Products, Inc., 207 A.D.3d 408 (1st Dept. 2022) *Grunert v. A.C. and S., Inc.*, 207 A.D. 3d 414 (1st Dept. 2022) *Pomponi v. A.O. Smith Water Products Co.*, 207 A.D. 3d 417 (1st Dept. 2022)

Achieved summary judgment for school district in personal injury negligence lawsuit based on school immunity through the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Immunity Act.

Peters v. Herrin Comm. Unit School Dist. No. 4, 2015 IL App (5th) 130465

Obtained release for product manufacturer in plaintiffs' appeal of third-party defendants' good-faith settlements.

Davis v. American Optical Corp., 386 Ill. App. 3d 866, 899 N.E. 2d 506 (5th Dist. 2008)

Awards & Recognition

NATIVE AMERICAN INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Diversity Journal

2024

LEGAL COUNCIL ON LEGAL DIVERSITY

Fellow

2022

BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA

Mass Tort Litigation/Class Action

2022-2023, 2025

ILLINOIS LEADING LAWYER

Civil Litigation

SUPER LAWYERS RISING STAR

Mass Tort Litigation/Class Action

2009-2010, 2012-2016

Related Services

Appellate Litigation

Publications & Speaking Engagements

U.S. Supreme Court Mallory Decision and Impact on Personal Jurisdiction Defenses

Insurer In-House Summit on Asbestos Litigation,

Wausau, WI

October 2023

Adjuster Law & Ethics Update

Insurer In-House Webinar

September 2023

Jurisdictional Update

HarrisMartin's Midwest Asbestos Litigation Conference

St. Louis, MO

September 2021

Women in Business Panel

Perrin Cutting-Edge Issues in Asbestos Litigation Conference

Beverly Hills, CA

March 2018

Daimler: Where Do We Belong and Where Are We Going?

Cutting-Edge Issues in Asbestos Litigation Conference

Beverly Hills, CA

March 2016

Education, Admissions & Activities

EDUCATION

Washington University in St. Louis School of Law

J.D., 2002

Gustavus A. Buder, Jr. and Kathryn M. Buder Scholar

University of Oklahoma

B.A., 1999

Journalism

Minors in Latin & Women's Studies

BAR ADMISSIONS

Illinois

Missouri

COURT ADMISSIONS

United States District Court of Illinois

Southern District

Illinois Federal Court

Missouri State Federal Court

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL)

Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA)

Women Lawyers' Association of Greater St. Louis

Illinois Appellate Lawyer Association

Illinois Bar Association

Missouri Bar Association

Junior Service Club of St. Clair County

[Illinois](#)

Mind's Eye Radio

[Belleville, Illinois](#)

Safe Connections

[St. Louis, Missouri](#)

University of Oklahoma Alumni Association

[Life Member](#)