



KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI

Current Trends in State Attorney General Investigations

There has been an expanding trend in State Attorneys General becoming more involved in how businesses and industries operate. In recent years, State Attorneys General have become more powerful and more aggressive in connection with what they can do to investigate different kinds of businesses and industries, and how they can bring issues to the forefront through public litigation, coordinated litigation, and public relations. This session will discuss the current trends that we are seeing in State Attorneys General investigations and litigation.



Jean Paul Bradshaw
Partner
Lathrop GPM LLP
816.460.5507
jeanpaul.bradshaw@lathropgpm.com

Jean Paul focuses his practice on white-collar criminal defense, complex civil litigation, class actions and internal corporate investigations. He has represented clients in litigation involving business disputes, healthcare issues, constitutional amendments, and mass tort nuisance claims, among others. Jean Paul is a former United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, and currently serves as Partner in Charge of the firm's Kansas City office.



Eric Yaffe
Partner
Lathrop GPM LLP
202.295.2232
frank.sciremammano@lathropgpm.com

Eric represents corporations and individuals in high-stakes litigation and investigations across the country, focusing on white collar and government investigations, legal ethics, complex civil litigation, and franchise litigation. His litigation experience includes shareholder disputes, employment issues, antitrust, trademark infringement, covenants not to compete, false advertising, breach of contract, and fraud, among other areas. Eric is a former Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia and leads the firm's Investigations & White-Collar Defense team.

You Can't Spell "Inevitable" Without A.I.

We will discuss recent developments in the evolving AI regulatory landscape including key features of the EU's AI act. We will review industry and agency specific regulations and the potential implications for employment, health care and advertising/marketing. We will look at the potential future of common law tort liability following the emergence of generative AI and will outline ways for a business to attempt to mitigate its risk in an uncertain future.



Patrick Fanning
Partner
Lathrop GPM LLP
816.460.5416
patrick.fanning@lathropgpm.com

Pat is a trial attorney who focuses his practice on complex business disputes and toxic tort matters where cutting-edge technology and science issues typically intersect with contract law and traditional notions of fair play and personal responsibility.



Kathleen Fisher Enyeart
Counsel
Lathrop GPM LLP
816.460.5843
kathleen.fisherenyart@lathropgpm.com

Kathleen Fisher Enyeart, a seasoned litigator and former in-house attorney, is Counsel in Lathrop GPM's Litigation practice. Clients – many of them large corporations – trust Kathleen's experience and advice in guiding them through some of the most high-stakes matters companies can face, internal investigations, as well as civil and criminal investigations at both the state and federal levels. She has represented transportation companies, religious organizations, construction companies and educational institutions, among others.



KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI

Been There, Won That

In this refresh of a long-time State of Litigation fan favorite, several members of Lathrop GPM's outstanding trial teams will relay their real-world experiences in the high-profile litigation matters they have handled over the past year. The panel will no doubt tell a few "war stories" (they can't help themselves) while weaving in their practical tips and strategies for crafting and delivering compelling narratives, effectively leveraging media and public relations, and finding ways to engage jurors in this era of limited attention spans and sharply divided public opinions.



David Frye
Partner
Lathrop GPM LLP – Kansas City
816.460.5726
david.frye@lathropgpm.com

For over two decades, David Frye has focused his practice in tort and commercial litigation. He has substantial experience defending lawsuits involving general personal injury, premises liability, automotive liability, toxic tort exposure and commercial litigation in both state and federal courts. He has served as first chair in several multimillion-dollar lawsuits, with a particular emphasis on defending claims alleging catastrophic injuries or wrongful death.



Arielle McPherson
Associate
Lathrop GPM LLP - Chicago
312.920.3358
arielle.mcpherson@lathropgpm.com

Arielle McPherson is an associate who focuses her practice on environmental, product liability and tort litigation. She is involved in all phases of litigation, including discovery, depositions, dispositive and pre-trial motions, pleadings and trial. In the environmental area, Arielle works on complex multi-party Superfund matters for clients as both plaintiffs and defendants in litigation, and nonjudicial allocation proceedings.



Bernie Rhodes
Partner
Lathrop GPM LLP – Kansas City
816.460.5508
bernie.rhodes@lathropgpm.com

With more than 30 years of experience, Bernie Rhodes is a proven litigator with a national trial and appellate practice, appearing as counsel in more than 100 reported decisions. He also leads a national team of attorneys who represent a variety of print, film, television and online media companies in First Amendment, intellectual property, and other matters.



Emma Halling
Associate
Lathrop GPM LLP – Kansas City
816.460.5622
emma.halling@lathropgpm.com

Emma Halling is an associate and member of the firm's Litigation & Dispute Resolution group. Her practice focuses on complex business disputes. In particular, she defends and protects the rights of Fortune 500 information technology companies in software disputes with other businesses.



KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI

Your (Forgotten Legacy) Insurance is the Best Alternative Fee Arrangement

Utilizing Alternative Fee Arrangements (AFA) can increase access to legal services and improve the relationship between clients and outside counsel. The most overlooked AFA for defending litigation is finding an alternative entity, like an insurance company, to pay a client's legal fees; the key to success is finding and exploiting them. We'll walk you through how to locate, identify and pursue litigation costs under many kinds of old – and sometimes forgotten – insurance policies. We'll also discuss the most common claims covered by legacy insurance as well as contract-based rights to a defense of litigation.



William Beck
Partner
Lathrop GPM LLP
816.460.5811
william.beck@lathrogpm.com



Alana McMullin
Associate
Lathrop GPM LLP
816.460.5531
alana.mcmullin@lathrogpm.com

Bill Beck has more than 35 years of experience as a trial lawyer. Bill's national practice consists of trials, arbitrations, administrative proceedings, mediations and negotiations to resolve high stakes, technical, complex disputes involving environmental liability and insurance coverage. Bill's insurance coverage team has experience in insurance archaeology, policy analysis, charting, allocation, claim development, settlement negotiations, coverage litigation, and alternative coverage dispute resolution. Bill has recovered hundreds of millions of dollars from insurers.

Alana McMullin focuses her practice on defending clients in complex insurance disputes, products liability and toxic tort litigation, as well as general liability matters. As an insurance attorney, Alana analyzes policy terms, counsels clients on handling claims and risks, and negotiates with insurance carriers on behalf of policyholders facing environmental, product liability and other claims. As a litigator, Alana conducts initial case assessments, legal research, drafts pleadings and motions, responds to discovery and keeps clients informed.



KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI

The Future of DEI in the Workplace

Dynamic panel discussion with DE&I professionals and leaders from diverse backgrounds, focusing on relatable and common DEI issue areas such as the mentorship/sponsorship and retention of underrepresented employees, the importance of diverse networking and pipeline development, and workplace inclusion. The panel will also discuss strategies for fostering inclusive environments, leadership that champions diversity, the importance of allyship, and more.



Dr. Andrea Hendricks
Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Officer
Authentico
drandrea@weareauthentico.com

For over 25 years, Dr. Andrea Hendricks has been an executive who provides strategic vision, inspiration and focused leadership for the development and implementation of key initiatives connected to Human Resources and DEI programs designed to strengthen commitment, intention, and culture. Career history of being tapped to establish and build new DEI programs and strengthening existing ones to create shared vision and alignment of DEI strategy with an organization’s overall objectives.



Adam Miller
Founder
Bespoke Consulting
adam@bespokeconversation.com

Adam Miller is the Founder of Bespoke Consulting, a practice designed to elucidate the systemic, oft-overlooked, challenges within organizations that preclude growth, buy-in, and success. In 2023, he was a mayoral appointee to the Charter Review Commission, where he and his fellow commissioners forecasted opportunities and challenges alike for Kansas City’s growth for the next decade.



Greg Valdovino
Vice President of Diversity, Equity,
and Inclusion
Greater Kansas City Chamber of
Commerce
valdovino@kcchamber.com

Greg leads the KC Chamber’s efforts related to the organization’s Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion mission to value and promote diversity and inclusion for a successful business community. Greg works closely with the KC Chamber’s Diverse Business Committee to plan, coordinate, and execute its menu of programs, events, and outreach initiatives.



Vicki Webster, JD, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, CPM
Director – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion &
Belonging
GEHA Health
vicki.webster@geha.com

Vicki leads the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging strategy at GEHA, with a goal of empowering personal and systematic change towards justice and belonging. Vicki earned her B.A. from Columbia University in NYC with concentrations in East Asian Languages and Cultures and Political Science and her J.D. from Rutgers University in Newark, NJ.



Vanessa Vaughn West
Chief Culture, Diversity and Engagement Officer
Lathrop GPM LLP
816.460.5201
vanessa.vaughnwest@lathropgpm.com

Vanessa works to design and implement the inclusion and diversity strategy at Lathrop GPM. Vanessa leverages the firm’s inclusion networks, diversity education programs, and executive and firm-wide leaders to inspire curious and courageous conversations, partnerships and understanding related to diversity and inclusion within the workplace. Vanessa also ran for Kansas State Representative in the November 2022 election.