

Seth C. Wright

SHAREHOLDER

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Seth Wright provides practical, real world solutions for clients both large and small. Seth has deep litigation experience in a wide range of civil disputes, including large, complex cases. Whether you are a large Fortune 500 company or a small business looking for a solution in or out of the courtroom, Seth can provide the guidance you need to develop a strategy for your unique set of needs. Seth recognizes that to achieve the litigation objectives of clients in the world today requires a wide ranging set of skills. Whether your litigation involves a trial, arbitration, mediation or other creative solution, Seth has the skills, knowledge and experience to work with clients to achieve their desired outcome.

His practice focuses on representing businesses and individuals on a wide variety of disputes, with a concentration in commercial litigation. Seth became an accomplished litigator at a young age and as a result was recognized as both a “Rising Star” and an “Up and Coming Lawyer.” Seth can handle any case from start to finish. He has first chair jury trial experience and has also practiced in various appellate courts. His practice includes both state and federal courts across the nation. Seth also has experience in a variety of administrative jurisdictions at both the state and local levels.

Seth has developed a national prowess in agri-business, energy, real estate and environmental disputes, along with handling various complex commercial litigation matters. He has represented some of the nation’s largest energy companies in a variety of disputes and jurisdictions. In addition, Seth represents a number of farmers, ranchers, community groups, landowners and small businesses relating to their agri-business needs and services. Seth has an excellent understanding of the complexity and individuality of cases in the agri-business, energy and environmental industries of the 21st Century. Seth’s work includes handling complex business disputes, contract disputes, various business torts including fraud and tortious interference with contracts, fiduciary duty disputes, claims involving non-compete and/or non-solicitation agreements, shareholder derivative claims and disputes with various government agencies.

Seth’s dedication to his community continues well beyond his commitment to clients of the firm. In addition to his professional experience, Seth has served on a number of local boards and committees. He was elected and served as the President of the St. Joseph School District Board of Education. His involvement with local boards provides a deeper background and stronger local relationships that benefit our clients.

Capabilities

- Commercial Litigation
- Litigation
- Real Estate Litigation
- Agribusiness

Education

- University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law (J.D., 2002)
 - UMKC Law Review, Note & Comment Editor; Urban Lawyer; Negotiation Team; Moot Court Trial Team; Order of the Barristers
- University of Missouri-Columbia (B.J., 1999)
 - Broadcast Journalism; Curator's Scholarship; University of Missouri Baseball Team

Bar Admissions

- Missouri, 2002
- Kansas, 2003

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Federal Claims
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court

Memberships

- The Missouri Bar
- St. Joseph Bar Association
 - President, 2011
 - Vice President, 2010
- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association
- United Way of St. Joseph
 - Board Chair, 2014
 - Vice Chair, 2013
 - Campaign Chair, 2011
 - Board of Directors, 2011-2017
 - Campaign Cabinet, 2008-2010
- United Way Volunteer of the Year Award 2018
- Missouri Western State University Foundation Board, 2011-2018
 - Chair, 2017
 - Vice Chair, 2015-2016
- St. Joseph Downtown Rotary Club #32
 - President, 2008-2009
 - President-Elect, 2007-2008
 - Vice President, 2006-2007
 - Secretary, 2005-2006
- St. Joseph School District Foundation
 - Board of Directors, 2011-2019
 - Vice Chair, 2012-2018
- St. Joseph School District Board of Education
 - Elected to school board in April 2018
 - President of the St. Joseph School Board of Education, 2018-2020
- Mizzou Alumni Association
 - Buchanan County Chapter, Board of Directors
 - Treasurer, 2005-2008
 - Vice President, 2008-2010
 - President, 2010-2012
- Leadership Missouri, 2005

- Leadership St. Joseph, 2003
 - Board of Directors, 2006-2011
 - Vice-Chair, 2009
 - Chair, 2010
- Leadership St. Joseph Alumni of the Year Award, 2020
- National MS Society
 - Board of Directors, 2004-2010
 - Legislative Committee, 2008-2010
- St. Joseph Arts Fund, 2005
- St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
 - Young Executives Network
 - Chamber Diplomats
 - Total Resource Campaign, 2006-2018
- St. Joseph Saints Baseball Club
 - Board of Directors
- St. Joseph Mustangs
 - General Counsel, 2009-2021
- Second Harvest of Greater St. Joseph
 - Truckloads of Hope Campaign, Chair, 2009
- Community Alliance of St. Joseph
 - Education Committee, 2009-2010
- Phi Delta Kappa Award for Outstanding Community Supporter of Education 2010

Recognition

- Selected for inclusion in *Kansas & Missouri Super Lawyers, Rising Stars*, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
- Honored as a 2011 Up and Coming Lawyer by *Missouri Lawyers Weekly*

Matters

- *Ideker Farms, Inc., et al. v. U.S.A., Case No. 14-cv-00183-NBF, U.S. Court of Federal Claims. Represents 372 farmers, landowners and small businesses alleging an unlawful taking of private property without just compensation due to atypical and recurrent flooding along the Missouri River. In March of 2018, the court ruled for Plaintiffs. The case now moves to a second phase to address damages and remaining liability issues.*
- *Wilson v. The Township Board of Colfax Township, DeKalb County, Missouri, et al., Case No. 16DK-CC00053. Represented renewable energy company involving a dispute over the construction of a wind farm in Colfax Township, DeKalb County, Missouri. Following the deposition of the plaintiff, the case was dismissed.*
- *Osborn Wind Energy, LLC, et al. v. Washington Township Zoning Administrator, Case No. 17DK-CC00086. Represents renewable energy company involving dispute over the proper adoption of local zoning ordinances involving the construction of a commercial wind energy conversion system.*
- *Osborn Wind Energy, LLC, et al. v. The Clinton County Commission, et al., Case No. 17AE-CC00019. Represented renewable energy company at hearings before the planning and zoning commission, and resulting litigation, over the proper adoption of local zoning ordinances involving the construction of a commercial wind energy conversion system.*

- Represented plaintiff funeral home owners to enforce a non-compete covenant. Also able to obtain an injunction against the infringing former employee. After a seven-day jury trial, the jury returned a verdict for plaintiffs.
- Represented defendant Worth County, Mo., in a wrongful death action. The mother of a 16-year-old died in an automobile accident and sued the county where the accident occurred alleging the accident was caused by negligent road construction and maintenance. Obtained a jury verdict in favor of defendant.
- Represented defendant City of St. Joseph, Mo., in a personal injury lawsuit involving a trip and fall on a sidewalk. Obtained a jury verdict in favor of defendant.