



James A. Friedman

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Practice Areas

Antitrust

Appellate

Contract & Commercial
Litigation

Insurance & Reinsurance

Litigation

Media & First Amendment

Admissions

Wisconsin

Education

Juris Doctor, University of
Wisconsin Law School, *with
honors*

Master of Public Affairs,
University of Wisconsin-
Madison, 1992

Bachelor of Science,
Georgia Institute of
Technology, 1988, *with high
honors*

James Friedman is the former team leader of the Insurance & Reinsurance practice and former co-leader of the Litigation practice, working out of the Madison office. He practices in the civil litigation area with an emphasis on insurance coverage, insurance liquidation and guaranty fund work, media law, and appellate litigation.

Before joining the firm, James served as the law clerk to Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Donald W. Steinmetz. He is the author of the chapter "Creative Strategies and Responses to Changes in Insurance Coverage Law" of the book "Inside the Minds: Recent Developments in Insurance Coverage Litigation" and the co-author of the chapter "Understanding Traditional and Non-Traditional Bad Faith Claims" of the book "Inside the Minds: Extracontractual Claims Against Insurers." He is also the co-author of the NCIGF Annotated Model Insurance Guaranty Act, five chapters in the Media Law Resource Center's "50-State Survey of Libel and Privacy Law," the Reporter's Committee for Freedom of the Press, 50-state Compendium of Shield Laws, and the article "State Constitutions: The Shopping Mall Cases," published in the 1998 *Wisconsin Law Review*.

James is admitted to practice before all Wisconsin courts, state and federal; the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Seventh and Eleventh Circuit; and the U.S. Supreme Court. He has successfully represented insurance, news media, and other business clients before administrative tribunals, through state and federal trial courts (including several jury trials), in intermediate appellate courts, and before the Wisconsin and United States Supreme Courts.

Representative Experience

Wis. Patients Compensation Fund v. Wis. Health Care Liability Insurance Plan, 200 Wis. 2d 599, 547 N.W.2d 578 (1996) (insurance)

Moua v. American Family, 230 Wis. 2d 747, 604 N.W.2d 34 (Ct. App. 1999) (unpublished) (insurance/class action)

Progressive Northern Insurance Company v. Romanshek, 2005 WI 67, 281 Wis. 2d 300, 697 N.W.2d 417 (insurance; amicus curiae)

Larson v. United Healthcare Ins. Co., 723 F.3d 905 (7th Cir. 2013) (counsel for WPS; health insurance/ERISA)

Schinner v. Gundrum, 2013 WI 71, 349 Wis. 2d 529, 833 N.W.2d 685 (insurance; amicus curiae)

Kimble v. Land Concepts, Inc., 2014 WI 21, 353 Wis. 2d 377, 845 N.W.2d 395 (insurance/punitive damages; amicus curiae)

Representative Experience

Wis. Pharmacal Co. v. Neb. Cultures of Cal., Inc., 2016 WI 14, 367 Wis. 2d 221, 876 N.W.2d 72 (insurance/coverage; amicus curiae)

Boyden, et al. v. Wis. Dep't of Employee Trust Funds, et al., U.S. Dist. Court, W.D. Wis. Code No. 17-CV. 264 (2017) (counsel for WPS; health insurance/coverage)

In the Matter of the Segregated Account of Ambac Assurance Corporation, Dane County Circuit Court Case No. 10 CV 1576 (insurance; Wisconsin and insurance counsel for bank group receiving \$4.6 billion settlement and several other interested parties)

In the Matter of the Rehabilitation of Northwestern National Insurance Company, Dane County Circuit Court Case No. 06 CV 3585 (counsel for Rehabilitator)

In the Matter of the Liquidation of American Star Insurance Company, Dane County Circuit Court Case No. 92 CV 4579 (counsel for Liquidator)

In the Matter of the Liquidation of Reliance Insurance Company, Dane County Circuit Court Case No. 01 CV 2807 (counsel for Wis. Insurance Security Fund)

Wisconsin Insurance Security Fund v. Krist Oil Co., Wisconsin Court of Appeals 2008AP3094 (December 18, 2009) (counsel for Wisconsin Insurance Security Fund)

Wisconsin Newspress, Inc. v. School District of Sheboygan Falls, 199 Wis. 2d 768, 546 N.W.2d 143 (1996) (open records)

Vultaggio v. Yasko, 215 Wis. 2d 326, 572 N.W.2d 450 (1998) (libel)

Erdmann v. S.F. Broadcasting, Inc., 229 Wis. 2d 156, 599 N.W.2d 1 (Ct. App. 1999) (libel; amicus curiae)

GPS, Inc. v. Town of St. Germain, 2004 WI 81, 273 Wis. 2d 103, 681 N.W.2d 533 (open records)

Jimmy D. Davis, Jr., et al. v. Meghan A. Dwyer, et al., U.S. Dist. Court E.D. Wis. Case No. 17-CV-561 (Libel)

Lands' End, Inc. v. Eric Remy, et al., U.S. Dist. Court, W.D. Wis. Case No. 05-C-0368 C, slip op. (Sept. 1, 2006, summary judgment; IP)

Lands' End, Inc. v. Genesys Software Systems, Inc., U.S. Dist. Court, W.D. Wis. Case No. 13-CV-38 (IP)

Marine Travelift, Inc. v. Cimolai Technology S.p.A, et al., U.S. Dist. Ct., E.D. Wis. Case No. 16-CV-338 (local counsel; IP)

Lands' End Direct Merchants, Inc., et al. v. Color Image Apparel, Inc., U.S. Dist. Ct., W.D. Wis. Case No. 16-CV-338 (IP)

University of Wisconsin Medical Foundation, Inc. v. Meriter Hospital, Inc., et al., Dane County Circuit Court Case No. 11 CV 5005 (healthcare)

Court Admissions

Federal Trial Courts of Wisconsin
United States Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
United States Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
United States Supreme Court
Wisconsin Court of Appeals
Wisconsin Supreme Court
Wisconsin Trial Courts

Professional Association Memberships

International Association of Insurance Receivers

Activities

Appointed by Governor to the Wisconsin Public Records Board in 2019

Georgia Tech – President's Scholarship Committee/Regional Chair

James E. Doyle American Inn of Court – One of the Founding Members and Past Program Coordinator (for two years), member of Program Committee

Joint Legislative Council, Study Committee on the Use of Police Body Cameras – Member

Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation - Board Member

University of Wisconsin Law School – Lecturer, Constitutional Law and Insurance Law; Guest Lecturer, Entrepreneurship Clinical

Wisconsin Innocence Project - Advisory Board Member, Chair of Development Committee

Wisconsin Newspaper Association Foundation – Board Member, Secretary-Treasurer

Wisconsin Newspaper Association Services – Board Member

Honors

Fellows of the Wisconsin Law Foundation

Recognized by *AI Legal Awards* as a 2016 leader in Insurance & Reinsurance – Wisconsin

Recognized by *Benchmark Litigation* as a Local Litigation Star (General Commercial and Insurance, 2012 - present)

Listed in *Best Lawyers in America*:

Appellate Practice, Commercial Litigation and Litigation - First Amendment: 2008 - present

Lawyer of the Year, Litigation - First Amendment, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2023

Lawyer of the Year, Appellate Practice - 2014 and 2018

Recognized as a *Wisconsin Super Lawyer* (2006 - present)

Recognized in the Madison Top 25 by *Wisconsin Super Lawyers* (2021, 2024)

Listed in *In Business Magazine's* "Executive Register"

Listed in *In Business Magazine's* 2005 "40 Executives Under 40"

Designated by the International Association of Insurance Receivers as an Accredited Insurance Receiver

Recognized by *Chambers USA* (Litigation, 2022 - present)

Recognized as a Top 10 Influential Commercial Litigation Lawyer to Watch in Wisconsin by *Business Today* (2023)