

Barry A. O'Neil

SHAREHOLDER



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Practice Groups

Business & Commercial Litigation

Professional Liability

Overview

Barry O'Neil is an accomplished trial attorney with a practice focused on professional liability defense, complex commercial litigation, employment-related disputes, and insurance matters. Certified as a Civil Trial Specialist by the Minnesota State Bar Association, Barry brings substantial courtroom and arbitration experience to matters involving professional liability and malpractice claims, with a particular emphasis on claims against lawyers, accountants, and other professionals, as well as contract disputes, shareholder and partnership conflicts, business competition claims, and other high-stakes commercial issues.

In addition to his litigation practice, Barry is a frequent CLE presenter on professional liability, trial practice, ethics, and business litigation topics. His depth of experience and professional standing are reflected in repeated recognition by Minnesota Super Lawyers, *The Best Lawyers in America*®, *Minnesota Monthly's* Top Lawyers list, and *Martindale-Hubbell's* AV Preeminent® rating for legal ability and ethical standards.

Education & Admissions

Education

- William Mitchell College of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 1991
- Gustavus Adolphus College, B.A., *cum laude*, 1986

Bar Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Tax Court
- U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota
- U.S. District Court Central District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Wisconsin
- Minnesota

Certifications

- Certified Civil Trial Law Specialist by the Minnesota State Bar Association

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Experience

Representative Cases

- Summary judgment for defendant legal aid organization in contract action relating to legal malpractice claim
- Summary judgment for defendant law firm and lawyer on abuse of process/malicious prosecution claim
- Statutory dismissal for attorneys and law firms in legal malpractice action
- Defense verdict in legal malpractice action involving family law representation in underlying matter
- Jury verdict for clients in shareholder dispute involving claims of breach of fiduciary duty resulting in buyout of clients' minority interests in privately-held company
- Defense verdict and recovery on counterclaim and sanctions in favor of small business and property owner
- Defense verdict in employment dispute for small business owner
- Defense verdict in legal malpractice action involving real estate collection dispute in underlying matter
- Summary judgment in favor of defendant law firm and lawyers arising from representation in personal injury proceeding
- Summary judgment for defendant law firm and lawyers in action arising from underlying contract dispute
- Plaintiff verdicts in favor of residents of manufactured housing communities against park owners for violations of Minnesota resident protection laws

Publications

- *Agent and Broker Liability*, author, Update to Fifth Edition of the Minnesota Insurance Law Deskbook, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, July 2021

Seminars

- *When CAN You Speak to a Represented Party?* presenter, Hennepin County Bar Association, June 2020
- *Legal Malpractice Actions and Ethics Issues Related to Bankruptcy Matters*, presenter, 2019 Bankruptcy Institute, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, October 2019
- *Legal Malpractice Issues: Plaintiff and Defendant Perspectives*, presenter, The Knowledge Group, January 2019

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Professional & Civic

Bar Associations

- American Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association
- Minnesota State Bar Association
 - Civil Litigation Section
 - Labor and Employment Law Section
 - Professionalism and Ethics Section
- Hennepin County Bar Association

Professional Associations

- Professional Liability Defense Federation

Accolades

Honors & Awards

- Top Lawyers list, *Minnesota Monthly*, Legal Malpractice Law, 2025 and 2026
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Professional Malpractice Law, 2018-present
- Minnesota Super Lawyers list, *Super Lawyers*, 2008-present
- Rated AV Preeminent® by Martindale-Hubbell®
 - *The highest rating for legal ability and ethical standards from members of the bar and judiciary*