



## Natalie Kussart

SHAREHOLDER IN ST. LOUIS, MO

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### SERVICES

Appellate & Complex Litigation  
Arbitration & Mediation  
Class Actions  
Commercial Litigation  
Construction Litigation  
General Business Law  
Health Care Regulatory & Compliance  
Medical Malpractice Defense  
Personal Injury & Tort Defense  
Product & Toxic Tort Liability  
State Board Disciplinary Proceedings  
Cybersecurity & Privacy Risk Management

### INDUSTRIES

Automotive  
Banking & Finance  
Consumer Products  
Drugs & Pharmaceuticals  
Heavy Machinery  
Hospitals  
Manufacturing & Distribution  
Medical Devices  
Mortgage Providers & Services

Natalie Kussart is Chair of the Class Action Team for the firm's Business Litigation and Products Liability practice groups. She is also the Vice Chair of the Class Action Special Litigation Group within the Business Litigation section of DRI (The Voice of the Defense Bar). Natalie has been named as a Rising Star by Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers in 2009, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019, which is an honor given to no more than 2.5% attorneys in the state. She joined Sandberg Phoenix in September of 2007 as an associate after working for the firm as a summer associate in 2006 and as a law clerk from 2005 to 2007.

Working with the Business Litigation and Products Liability practice groups, Natalie has experience in class actions, commercial and construction litigation, personal injury and tort defense, product and toxic tort liability, professional liability, medical malpractice defense, arbitration and mediation and appellate work. Throughout her career, she has represented trucking and bus companies, hospitals, physicians, banks, mortgage providers, and manufacturers of automobiles, consumer products, heavy machinery, medical devices, recreational products and drugs/pharmaceuticals.

Sharing Sandberg Phoenix's focus on superior client service, Natalie prides herself on responding to client inquiries quickly and achieving the best possible result for her clients. She is committed to defending her clients effectively and efficiently.

Outside her legal practice, Natalie enjoys spending time with her family, taking walks, reading, watching movies and traveling to warm destinations.

### SUCCESSSES

Natalie won summary judgment for her client in an anti-trust class action case that was pending in the United States District Court of the Southern District of Illinois (March 2018)

Natalie successfully settled a class action case in Missouri involving alleged violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act (February 2018)

Natalie assisted in defeating plaintiffs' motion for class certification in an anti-trust class action case that was pending in the United States District Court of the Southern District of Illinois (January 2018)

Natalie successfully negotiated a settlement of a class action case involving the titling of vehicles and alleged violations of the Missouri Merchandising Practices Act (October 2017)

Natalie successfully settled a class action case that was pending in the Circuit Court of St. Louis City, Missouri regarding the “natural” label on a food product (August 2017)

Natalie successfully negotiated a settlement in a class action case in Missouri involving a cleaning product (March 2017)

Natalie successfully negotiated a settlement in a class action case that was pending in federal court in Arkansas concerning alleged violations of the Deceptive Trade Practices Act for balance billing (March 2017)

Natalie successfully settled a class action case pending in the Circuit Court of St. Louis County, Missouri involving alleged violations of the Landlord-Tenant Act and Missouri Merchandising Practices Act (February 2017)

Natalie assisted as local counsel in obtaining preliminary and final approval of a class action settlement for a case involving alleged violations of the federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act (January 2017)

Natalie assisted in successfully partially decertifying an anti-trust class in the Circuit Court of Madison County, Illinois (September 2016)

Natalie won a motion to dismiss in a class action case that was pending in the Western District of Missouri, in which plaintiff was alleging violations of 42 U.S.C. 1983 and the Religious Land Use Institutionalized Persons Act (February 2015)

Natalie successfully defended companion putative class actions in the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri on behalf of a national mortgage lender and servicer. The litigations involved alleged violations of the Missouri Second Mortgage statute, including primary claims that arose under the Missouri Merchandising Practices Act. In both cases, dismissal/summary judgment was obtained on the client's behalf based primarily on statute of limitations grounds. The dismissal was affirmed by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals and was final when a Petition for Writ of Certiorari was recently denied by the United States Supreme Court. (2014/2015)

*Tuttle v. STERIS Corp.* Natalie won summary judgment for her client in a contentious products liability case (March 2014)

*Burbridge v. Harsco Corporation, et al.*, Natalie assisted in trying and winning a defense verdict in a case involving a train conductor alleging permanent eye injuries from shattered glass from a train accident (March 2012)

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association

ABA's Class Actions & Derivative Suits Group

Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis

Defense Research Institute

DRI's Class Action Special Litigation Group, Publication Chair

Missouri Bar Association

Missouri Trucking Association

Sandberg Phoenix's internal Class Action Group, Chair

## EDUCATION

J.D., Southern Illinois University School of Law, *summa cum laude* (graduating 2nd in her class)

M.A., Illinois State University

B.A., Millikin University, *summa cum laude*

## LICENSURE(S)

Illinois

Missouri

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri

United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois

## PUBLICATIONS

"Admissibility of Toxicology Reports to Establish Blood Alcohol Concentration," *DRI The Voice*, Volume 16 Issue 13 (April 5, 2017)

"Driving Logs: Can Deficiencies Expose Motor Carriers and Their Drivers to Criminal and Civil Liability?" *IADC Transportation Law Committee Newsletter* (March 2013)

"Reporting Medical Errors: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly," 31 *SIU L. J.* 385 (2007)

"Learning communities in the basic communication course: Exploring students' perception of power and use of compliance-gaining strategies," *Basic Communication Course Annual*, 19, 72-103 (2007)

"Paid Bills v. Charged Bills: Insurance and the Collateral Source Rule," 31 *SIU L. J.* 151 (2006)

## RECOGNITION

2014-2019

MISSOURI & KANSAS SUPER LAWYERS

Rising Star

2009

MISSOURI & KANSAS SUPER LAWYERS

Rising Star

2007

PHI KAPPA PHI

Award for Academic Excellence

2004

OUTSTANDING UNIVERSITY GRADUATE TEACHER

2004  
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION  
Outstanding Graduate Teacher