



The Sandberg Phoenix professional liability team has extensive experience representing accountants, attorneys, architects and engineers, insurance agents and brokers, real estate brokers and a wide range of other professionals. Members of the professional liability team have successfully defended professionals at the trial level and on appeal. We are retained directly by professionals as well serving as panel counsel for insurers.

Many Sandberg Phoenix attorneys were working professionals in various industries prior to enrolling in law school. This vast experience through prior careers enables Sandberg Phoenix attorneys to appreciate the stress placed upon professionals facing lawsuits. Our attorneys work quickly to develop a strategy for defending professionals while recognizing a trial of the matter may not be the desired result. In such cases, the professional liability attorneys seek a quick resolution with a focus on decreasing the time commitment from the professionals.

In addition to defending professionals at trial, Sandberg Phoenix has significant experience representing clients in front of state licensing boards. Firm members have also been retained to counsel professional firms on a wide array of issues.

## Successes

Sandberg Phoenix successfully represented an accounting firm which conducted a review of a large privately held company. The officers and directors of the company misappropriated millions of dollars and were criminally charged. A collection of financial institutions which loaned in excess of \$5 million to the company filed suit against the accountants. The case was pending in federal court and settled on the eve of the hearing on the accounting firm's motion for summary judgment. Sandberg Phoenix argued the financial institutions did not have standing to file a suit against the accountants because they were not members of a class permitted to rely on the reviewed financial statements.

Sandberg Phoenix successfully defended a national accounting firm at the trial court level and judgment was upheld by the Missouri Court of Appeals. The case concerned failure to detect theft by an employee. The accounting firm performed a review of a nonprofit entity's financial statements. We educated the trial court on applicable standards and convinced the court that reviews are not designed to uncover theft.