



Emily Belanger

Partner

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Baltimore, MD – 410.962.5284

Emily Belanger represents clients and insurers in the field of insurance defense and general litigation. Emily's practice focuses on all aspects of litigation, including pre-suit investigation, discovery and trial. In addition to arguing before the Court of Special Appeals, Emily has conducted bench trials and second-chaired jury trials in the state and federal courts of Maryland and the District of Columbia. Prior to joining Wilson Elser, Emily worked at a local defense firm.

Emily shows exceptional dedication to her clients, with an approach to litigation focused foremost on meeting and exceeding their expectations and achieving the best result at the end of the day.

Complex Tort & General Casualty

Emily has experience advising and representing clients in a range of areas, including risk analysis, claims and litigation.

Construction

Emily has represented a number of clients with respect to claims of construction defect and breach of contract, in addition to matters involving allegations of injury on construction sites and disputes among general contractors and subcontractors.

Insurance & Reinsurance Defense

Emily has represented clients in numerous claims in the realm of insurance defense. She has handled premises liability claims involving allegations of false imprisonment, slip and falls, falling merchandise, defective parking lot conditions and other such matters.

Product Liability, Prevention & Government Compliance

Emily has handled matters involving allegations of breach of warranty and failure to warn.

Services

- Complex Tort & General Casualty
- Construction
- Insurance & Reinsurance Defense
- Product Liability, Prevention & Government Compliance
- Transportation

Transportation

Emily has experience handling a wide range of matters involving transportation claims, including those accidents involving passenger vehicles as well as tractor trailers and common carriers. In addition to litigation experience, Emily also has conducted emergency response investigations.

Education

- University of Baltimore School of Law (J.D., 2013)
 - Staff Editor, University of Baltimore Law Review; Phi Delta Phi; Honor Board Member
- Towson University (B.S. Business Administration, 2010)
 - Beta Gamma Sigma

Bar Admissions

- Maryland
- District of Columbia

Court Admissions

- Court of Appeals of Maryland
- District of Columbia Court of Appeals
- U.S. District Court, District of Maryland
- U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

Professional Affiliations

- Maryland State Bar Association

Awards & Honors

- Selected for inclusion in SuperLawyers®, Rising Stars™, Maryland, 2019–2024
- Top Rated Civil Litigation Attorney in Baltimore, MD, by SuperLawyers®
- Selected for inclusion in SuperLawyers®, Rising Stars™, District of Columbia, 2019–2021

Representative Matters

Recently obtained summary judgment in favor of a client in federal court involving a slip and fall and issues of creating a dangerous condition and constructive knowledge.

Obtained a successful decision affirming the lower court verdict in favor of a client in a breach of contract claim.

Achieved summary judgment in favor of a common carrier in the District of Columbia on the basis of the “sudden emergency” doctrine.

After two recent bench trials, obtained two defense verdicts in motor vehicle accidents involving “word versus word” allegations.

In a property damage claim, obtained a defense verdict after arguing that plaintiff lacked sufficient expert testimony to support its claim of damages and replacement costs.

Client Wins

Russell and Belanger Obtain Defense Verdict in Favor of Major Hotel and Casino against Security Guard Allegations

Baltimore, Maryland, partners Angela Russell and Emily Belanger obtained a defense verdict in Prince George’s County Circuit Court in Maryland. The plaintiffs filed suit against the firm’s client, a major hotel and casino, after allegedly being assaulted, battered, and falsely imprisoned by security guards. The plaintiffs also alleged negligent training and supervision, gross negligence, and punitive damages. The court dismissed the gross negligence, negligent training and supervision, and punitive damages claims on a Motion for Judgment that was argued at the close of the defense case. The jury deliberated on the intentional tort claims. The plaintiffs relied most heavily on a 30-minute video where the plaintiffs are seen being “roughed up” by three security guards after one of the plaintiffs refused to cooperate with an investigation. The encounter was initiated because the plaintiffs were suspected of defrauding the casino. The jury deliberated for 30 minutes before returning a defense verdict.

Belanger and Russell Receive Defense Verdict, Court Discourages Further Appeals

Emily Belanger (Associate-Baltimore, MD) and Angela Russell (Partner-Baltimore, MD) received a defense verdict following a recent bench trial in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. This case has been pending for four years and was appealed to the Appellate Court after the lower court granted Emily and Angela’s motion for summary judgment. The Appellate Court reversed in part and remanded the case for trial. The plaintiff claimed breach of contract and sought the market value of his personal property (\$100,000+) and attorney’s fees following the sale of said property after plaintiff’s default on rental payments to our client storage facility. The court focused its analysis on waiver and estoppel based on COVID-19 publications that our client issued from their corporate offices noting leniency on payments and delays in auctions because of the pandemic. The court concluded that the plaintiff did not rely on said COVID-19 publications to establish estoppel, and as to waiver, that the plaintiff failed to carry his burden of proof. The court went on to caution the plaintiff that if he intended to appeal again, any damages would be limited to \$5,000, pursuant to the contract, and attorney’s fees would not be recoverable.