



## Kimberly E. Blair

Partner

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Kimberly Blair focuses her litigation practice on professional liability, including accountants, attorneys, insurance agents, real estate agents, technology and media professionals, consultants, brokers, architects and engineers in addition to directors and officers liability, insurance coverage and bad faith matters. Kim sits on Wilson Elser's Executive Committee and is a cochair of the firm's Lawyers Liability Practice. She has tried cases in Illinois and has appellate experience throughout the United States, including a number of published appellate decisions on coverage matters. She is an active member of the Professional Liability Underwriters Association (PLUS).

Carrier clients rely on Kim's vast experience in all 50 states rendering coverage opinions on all types of professional liability insurance policies, as well as her resolute defense of wrongful denial claims and prosecution of declaratory judgment actions. Kim develops a strong rapport with the attorneys and other professionals she defends, envisioning herself in their positions and skillfully guiding them toward positive outcomes. To add further value to her client relationships, Kim frequently addresses in-house claims professionals and insureds on topics such as coverage, liability and damages.

In addition, Kim defends private- and public-sector employers in all aspects of federal and state employment discrimination laws, handling cases arising under state and federal fair employment practices statutes. She is quite literally at her clients' side before such administrative and judicial tribunals as the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the National Labor Relations Board or the U.S. Department of Labor, including state and federal administrative agencies and courts. Recognizing that employers seek cost-effective resolutions to complex and potentially protracted cases, when appropriate she seeks to accommodate them through alternate resolution options, including arbitration, conciliation and mediation.

### Jurisdictions

### Services

- Accountants
- Directors & Officers Liability
- Employment & Labor
- Insurance & Reinsurance Coverage
- Lawyers' Liability
- Professional Liability & Services

Kim has litigated actions in Illinois, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, California, Utah, Colorado, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Mississippi.

## **Education**

- Vanderbilt University School of Law (J.D., 2000)
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (B.A., 1997)
  - magna cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa

## **Bar Admissions**

- Illinois

## **Court Admissions**

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of California
- U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

## **Professional Affiliations**

- Chicago Bar Association
- Professional Liability Underwriters Association (PLUS)
- Defense Research and Trial Lawyers Association (DRI)

## **Awards & Honors**

- Selected for inclusion in Illinois *Super Lawyers®*, 2024
- Emerging Lawyers, 2015