



Samuel E.T. Jones

Associate

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Louisville, KY – 502.238.8547

Samuel Jones advocates for insurance companies, self-insured entities and commercial businesses in complex litigation as well as operational, transactional and general business matters. Samuel litigates general civil and insurance-related matters for insurance companies and their insureds in state and federal courts in Kentucky.

Having worked at several general practice firms over the course of his career, Samuel has solid experience working with commercial trucking, automotive, retail, restaurant, construction and dram shop issues. He also assists startups in corporate structure, employment contracts and operating agreements.

Samuel's colleagues and clients appreciate his charisma, dedication and genuine approach to addressing their concerns and confidently executing a plan toward an effective resolution. He has been recognized by his peers in local and national publications in the area of civil defense litigation as a Rising Star in the law. Samuel is actively engaged in volunteer and community organizations and serves in various leadership positions.

Insurance Defense

Samuel's practice primarily includes commercial litigation and insurance defense matters. He has extensive experience working with retail, restaurant and construction companies on premises, products and alcohol liability issues.

Corporate Services

Samuel commonly assists startups during the corporate structure and formation process, as well as drafting bylaws, contracts and operating agreements.

Education

Services

- Commercial Litigation
- Complex Tort & General Casualty
- Insurance & Reinsurance Defense
- Commercial Contracts & Agreements

- University of Kentucky College of Law (J.D., 2013)
 - Staff, Kentucky Journal of Equine, Agriculture and Natural Resource Law
- University of Louisville College of Business (M.B.A., 2016)
- University of Louisville (B.S. Political Science, 2010)
 - magna cum laude

Bar Admissions

- Kentucky

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of Kentucky
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Kentucky
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky

Professional Affiliations

- DRI: The Voice of the Defense Bar
- Kentucky Defense Counsel
- Kentucky Bar Association
- Louisville Bar Association
- Louisville Bar Foundation
- Charles W. Anderson Bar Association (Louisville Black Lawyers Association)
- Legal Aid Society, Board Member
- Louisville Urban League Young Professionals
- Young Professional Association of Louisville
- Louisville Rotary Club

Awards & Honors

- Selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America® Ones to Watch™*, 2024-2026
- Selected for inclusion in Kentucky *Super Lawyers® Rising Stars™*, 2019–2023
- Louisville Business First, Young Leader Award, 2019

Languages

- Spanish

Representative Matters

Obtained summary judgment in favor of county school board and multiple employees on grounds of qualified discretionary immunity after a claim of bullying was levied following a schoolyard altercation.

Obtained summary judgment for an auctioneer company that was sued by a visitor who slipped and fell at the premises of the auction, on grounds that auctioneer had no legal duty or obligation to maintain the premises.

Successfully negotiated resolution of wrongful death case for 10 percent of demand exposure after a motor vehicle accident was caused by a driver's intoxication at a local country club.

Client Wins

Motta and Jones Prevail on Motion to Compel Arbitration in Mold Injury Lawsuit

Denise Motta (Of Counsel-Louisville, KY) and Samuel Jones (Associate-Louisville, KY) successfully obtained an order compelling arbitration and staying the case in Boone County Circuit Court, Kentucky, on behalf of Wilson Elser's home inspector client. The plaintiffs alleged personal injuries arising from exposure to mold in a residential property. In addition to suing our client, the plaintiffs brought claims against the realtor and other parties involved in the sale of the home, alleging they concealed the home's condition. The home inspection contract contained several provisions favorable to our client, including an exclusion for mold inspections, a significant limitation of liability, and a mandatory arbitration agreement. The court concurred that the claims against the home inspector were subject to arbitration and stayed the litigation as to our client.

Motta and Jones Secure Preliminary Injunction, Halting Arbitration Against Engineering Client

Denise M. Motta (Of Counsel-Louisville) and Samuel E.T. Jones (Associate-Louisville) obtained a favorable decision from the United States District Court, Southern District of Indiana, granting a motion for preliminary injunction on behalf of their geotechnical engineering client. The client had provided geotechnical services for an interstate construction project that later became the subject of an arbitration proceeding. After being joined to the arbitration over objection, the client filed suit in federal court seeking a declaratory judgment that the claims asserted against it were not subject to arbitration. The court granted the preliminary injunction, finding that the dispute resolution clause in the upstream contract was not binding on the engineering client, nor did it delegate authority to the arbitrator to determine arbitrability. The court further concluded that the client was likely to succeed on the merits of the declaratory judgment action. As a result, the court enjoined and stayed the arbitration proceedings as to the geotechnical engineer. The court also denied a motion to dismiss based on forum non conveniens for the same reasons.

Burd and Jones Granted Motion for Summary Judgment – Case Dismissed with Prejudice

James M. Burd (Partner-Louisville, KY) and Samuel Jones (Associate-Louisville, KY) secured summary judgment on behalf of a real estate company in a case in which the

plaintiff alleged that after moving into an apartment complex that was still under construction, she became ill with sepsis due to water contamination stemming from poor workmanship and maintenance on the property. The plaintiff moved for summary judgment on her claims of negligence, negligent maintenance, false advertising of rent, fees, and utilities; and unjust enrichment. The plaintiff also filed a motion to disqualify defense counsel for a concurrent conflict of interest. Samuel then moved for summary judgment based on the plaintiff's failure to present any affirmative evidence to establish the requisite elements of negligence. In an Order addressing the competing motions for summary judgment and the motion to disqualify, the court found that the plaintiff failed to adequately demonstrate a causal connection between her illness and her tenancy at the complex in question. Further, the court found that the plaintiff's motion to disqualify failed to state an actual conflict and fundamentally misunderstood the nature of the attorney-client relationship. As such, the court denied the plaintiff's motion for summary and motion to disqualify, while simultaneously granting Jim and Samuel's motion for summary judgment, and dismissing the case with prejudice.