

Paulette S. Sarp

Minneapolis, MN

She/Her

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About Paulette

With more than 30 years of experience, Paulette works with insurance professionals to manage coverage and extra-contractual disputes in state and federal courts in jurisdictions nationwide. She handles claims-made and occurrence-based coverage, as well as commercial and personal lines, including commercial general liability, directors and officers, professional liability, workers' compensation/employers liability, commercial auto, homeowners, personal auto, and excess/umbrella policies.

Paulette's proactive approach ranges from preparing a well-reasoned letter to opposing counsel before a lawsuit is filed, to litigating the case all the way through trial and appeal. In addition, Paulette assists with policy drafting, counsels clients on changes in statutes and case law that affect coverage and claim-handling obligations, and prepares opinion letters that analyze coverage and potential exposure for first- and third-party claims.

Paulette's Affiliations

- American Bar Association
- Minnesota Bar Association
- Iowa Bar Association
- The National Association of Women Lawyers

Areas of Focus

Industries: Insurance; Reinsurance

Services: Bad Faith, Market Conduct & Extra-Contractual Liability;
Insurance Coverage Litigation & Counseling; Litigation & Trial

Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Insurance Law, 2024 – 2026
- Martindale-Hubbell, AV® Peer Review Rating
- University of Minnesota Law School, Order of the Coif; Phi Kappa Phi

Credentials

Education

University of Minnesota Law School, JD, *magna cum laude*
Moorhead State University, BA, *summa cum laude*

Bar Admissions

Arizona
Iowa
Minnesota

Court Admissions

US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
US Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
US District Court for the District of Arizona
US District Court for the District of Minnesota
US District Court for the Northern District of Iowa
US District Court for the Southern District of Iowa

Interests

Did you know..

Fascinated by human behavior, Paulette would consider an alternate career in psychiatry or as a crime investigator.

Community/Civic Activities

- Habitat for Humanity, Volunteer

Thought Leadership

Presentations

- Panelist, “Claims Handling Issues and Bad Faith Developments to be Aware of in 2021,” Hinshaw’s Webinar Series: Insurance Insights – What Insurers Need to Know in 2021, Virtual Event, April 20, 2021
- “A Medley of CGL Coverage Issues – Common Exclusions, Additional Insured Coverage, Reservation of Rights Letters, and More!” Minnesota Claim Managers’ Association (MCMA) Monthly Meeting, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, March 6, 2019
- “When The Cloud Bursts, Will There Be Coverage For Your Dependent Network Business Interruption Loss?,” ABA-Women in Litigation Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 2017
- “Most Common CGL Exclusions: How to Navigate Contractual Liability, Business Risk, Pollution and Other Exclusions,” Minnesota Insurance Law Institute, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 2015
- “Handling and Preserving Coverage Issues in a First-Party Property Claim,” client presentation, October 2014
- “My Building Survived the Storm, but Will My Business?,” ABA’s Insurance Coverage Litigation Seminar, Tucson, Arizona, March 2014

Events

- Hinshaw’s Paulette Sarp to Discuss CGL Coverage Issues at Minnesota Claim Managers’ Association Meeting, Mar 6, 2019
- Paulette Sarp to Speak at ABA Conference about Business Interruption Losses Caused by Internet Outages, Nov 17, 2017
- Minneapolis NAWL Roundtable Discussion: “The Choices We Make: Alternatives to Private Practice and Why Women Pursue Them”, Aug 8, 2011

In The News

- Paulette Sarp Mentioned in Law360 Article on Eighth Circuit Ruling in Favor of MMIC Insurance Co., Jul 19, 2016

Insights for Insurers Alert

- Insurer’s Duty to Defend Continues Until All Arguably-Covered Claims Against the Insured Have Been Extinguished With Finality, Feb 8, 2012

Press Releases

- 102 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Editions of *The Best Lawyers in America*® and *Ones to Watch*™, Aug 21, 2025
- 105 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2025 Editions of Best Lawyers in America and Ones to Watch, Aug 15, 2024

- Hinshaw Releases Second Edition of Duty to Defend: A Fifty-State Survey, Sep 18, 2023
- 101 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2024 Editions of Best Lawyers in America and Ones to Watch, Aug 17, 2023
- Hinshaw Insurance Law TV: Claims Handling Issues and Bad Faith Developments for Insurers to be Aware of in 2021, Jun 7, 2021

Webinar

- Webinar Series: Insurance Insights – What Insurers Need to Know in 2021, Apr 29, 2021