

James M. Brodzik

Belleville, IL

St. Louis, MO

He/Him

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About Jim

Jim represents clients in a broad range of litigation matters, including life, health, and disability claims—both ERISA and non-ERISA—as well as cases involving the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA) and other consumer protection laws, and asset recovery.

He also defends professionals, including doctors, lawyers, and accountants, against malpractice and negligence claims. Jim has extensive experience handling class actions, personal injury cases, and complex litigation involving products liability, premises liability, and toxic tort defense. His clients range from Fortune 500 companies to local municipalities and school districts.

Jim regularly litigates cases in US District Courts across Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Ohio, Kentucky, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Idaho, South Dakota, and North Dakota. As partner-in-charge of Hinshaw's St. Louis office, he plays a key leadership role in the firm's regional litigation practice.

Jim's Affiliations

- Illinois State Bar Association
- St. Clair County Bar Association

Areas of Focus

Industries: Consumer Financial Services; Education; Financial Services; Government; Healthcare; Life, Health, Disability & ERISA ; Professional Services

Services: Complex Commercial Litigation ; Complex Tort & General Casualty;
Consumer & Class Action Defense; Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA);
Litigation & Trial

Initiatives: Lawyers for the Profession®

Experience

- Obtained a dismissal with prejudice after the close of evidence in a multimillion-dollar wrongful death malpractice claim in Williamson, County, Illinois, successfully defending both the medical center client and a podiatric surgeon.
- Prevailed at the circuit and appellate levels in a Missouri class action challenging associate division summonses, securing likely \$50,000–\$100,000 in judgments plaintiffs sought to void. After briefing, the Supreme Court denied the appellant’s motion to transfer, preserving the victories.

Recognition

- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*, Commercial Litigation, 2024 – 2025; Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law, 2023 – 2025
- *Leading Lawyers*, Emerging Lawyer, 2017 – 2019
- Western Michigan University Cooley Law School, Book Award, Alternative Dispute Resolution; Dean’s List; Honor Roll; Knights of Columbus Citizen Scholarship; Merit Scholarship

Credentials

Education

Western Michigan University Cooley Law School, JD, *cum laude*, 2013

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, BS, 2009

Bar Admissions

Illinois

Missouri

Court Admissions

US District Court for the Central District of Illinois

US District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

US District Court for the Southern District of Illinois

US District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

US District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri

US District Court for the Western District of Missouri

Interests

Did you know...

Jim is deeply committed to giving back and actively fundraises for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Jim lives in Caseyville, Illinois, with his wife and three children. When time permits, he loves to travel and play golf.

Community/Civic Activities

- St. Vincent de Paul, Cosgrove's Soup Kitchen, East St. Louis, Illinois, Volunteer
- Washington University in St. Louis Moot Court Competition, Volunteer Judge

Thought Leadership

Press Releases

- 105 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2025 Editions of Best Lawyers in America and Ones to Watch, Aug 15, 2024
- 101 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2024 Editions of Best Lawyers in America and Ones to Watch, Aug 17, 2023
- Eighty-Seven Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2023 Editions of Best Lawyers in America and Ones to Watch, Aug 18, 2022
- Hinshaw Announces Election of 16 Partners In Nine U.S. offices, Jan 4, 2021