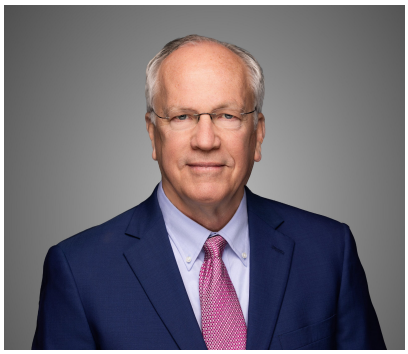


Kevin J. Visser

Member

Contact

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Location: Cedar Rapids, IA

Practice Areas

- Trial & Appellate Advocacy
- Business and Commercial Litigation
- Labor and Employment Law
- Trade Restrictions
- Transportation Law
- Legal Malpractice Defense
- Probate, Estate and Trust Litigation

Biography

Kevin Visser has served as lead counsel in more than 160 federal cases and hundreds more in Iowa state courts, with over 75 trials to verdict and judgment across 25 Iowa counties and five federal judicial districts. Most recently in 2025, his trial work has resulted in judgments, verdicts, and stock awards for individual and business concerns, plaintiffs and defendants.

Kevin's litigation practice involves business torts, shareholder disputes, intellectual property matters (including trade secrets and fair competition), and employment litigation, including class actions. His work involves clients in industries ranging from manufacturing, renewable energy, insurance, finance, transportation, and retail to franchising, organized labor, agriculture, and entertainment (sports).

The team in which he practices also handles appeals arising from trial decisions, with more than 40 appellate rulings in both the Iowa appellate courts and the United States Court of Appeals. The types of complex litigation and high stakes involved are illustrated in the representative experience noted here.

Kevin has served on the federal judicial merit selection panels and was a member of the firm's Board of Directors from 2009 to 2022. Kevin is also the firm's primary contact with the USLAW Network, connecting clients with trusted counsel across the country and internationally.

Bar Admissions

- Iowa Supreme Court, 1980
- State of Iowa

Education

- University of Iowa College of Law, JD
- University of Central Missouri, BS, (Economics)
    - Flippen Award: Outstanding Undergraduate

Representative Experience

Devin Grainger v Precision of New Hampton, Inc., No. C22-2043 (N.D. Iowa 2023)

- U.S. Districted Court refuses to certify claims on behalf of a class of subjectively bonused manufacturing employees.

Chad Rupert v Elplast America, Inc., No. CVCV0969902 (Ia. Dist. Bus. Ct. 2022)
Jury Verdict and Ruling

- Iowa Business Court jury rejects multi-million dollar claims of minority shareholder of fraud, oppression, and breach of contract.

Mary Thome v The Sayer Law Group, P.C., No. 20-cv-3058 (N.D. Iowa 2022)

- Following the court's refusal to certify a purported class of misled debtors, a federal jury rejects the named plaintiff's individual claims under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

Thomas Goettsch v (Law Firm), Successor to (Law Firm), No. LACV188238 (Ia. Dist. Bus. Ct. 2021)

- Iowa Business Court jury rejects controlling shareholder's multi-million dollar claims of legal malpractice against its lawyers arising out of their handling of a suit which resulted in the plaintiff gaining control of voting shares of family business.

Sellars, et al. vs. CRST Expedited, Inc., No. C15-117 (N.D. Iowa 2019)

- After decertifying a putative 300-woman sex harassment class action, the Iowa federal court granted summary judgment on a class action where claimants asserted that a dimunition in their pay when promptly removed from reportedly hostile workplaces was retaliatory. The court also dismissed the claims of the three named plaintiffs on their hostile work environment claims.

Sharon Bertroche, M.D., et al. v. Mercy Physician Associates, Inc., No. 1:18-cv-59 (N.D. Iowa 2019)

- After the district judge decertified a collective action by female physicians under the Equal Pay Act, a jury entered a verdict rejecting the lead plaintiff's claim that a hospital physicians group's pay formula was at a rate which differentiated on the basis of the gender of the physician performing services.

CRST Expedited, Inc. v. Swift Transportation Co. of Arizona, LLC, No. 17-cv-25 (N.D. Iowa 2019)

- A federal jury returned a $15,500,000 verdict on the business tort and unjust enrichment claims of a company which invested in training and qualifying drivers against a competitor which elected to misappropriate the use of 246 drivers' labor prior to the expiration of their ten month agreement to refrain from driving for companies which neither paid for their qualification nor a liquidated sum which would satisfy the obligation. (Reversed on appeal, 2021.)

Tina Haskenhoff v. Homeland Energy Solutions, LLC, No. LACV003218 (Ia. Dist. Ct. 2019)

- On remand from the Iowa Supreme Court, a Chickasaw County jury found, upon admission of liability for an underlying hostile work environment, that an ethanol plant's officers had not constructively discharged a complaining lab manager.

Parker v. Platinum Services Inc. n/k/a Platinum Supplemental insurance, Inc., No. LACV106241 (Ia. Dist. Bus. Ct. 2019)
Jury Verdict and Judgment Entry Order

- In the Iowa Business Specialty Court, after a multi-week trial a jury rejected the claims of a former sales executive and returned a counterclaim verdict against him of nearly $1,000,000 for his misappropriation of its trade secrets in using customer information and developing a product with a national insurance company to compete contrary to his agreement.

Tina Haskenhoff v. Homeland Energy Solutions, LLC, No. 15-0574 (Iowa Supreme Court 2017)

- Iowa Supreme Court reversed the 2015 order of a trial judge denying Homeland Energy, LLC a new trial based upon improper instructions of law requested by the Homeland's former lab manager. The Court's 173-page, three-opinion ruling vacates a $2.5MM judgment and announces the elements of Iowa law on a sexually hostile work environment, the standard for retaliation claims, and constructive discharge.

Busse, et al. v. Busse, et al., No. LACV083022 (Ia. Dist. Bus. Ct. 2017)
Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law, and Judgment Entry

- Jury rejects 14 theory Petition by disappointed shareholders and beneficiaries and court orders return of voting control of commercial real estate firm to its benefactor and managing director.

Dubuque Injection Service Company, Inc. v. Kress (Iowa Court of Appeals 2017)

- Appellate Court refuses to order new jury trial for managing shareholder's misappropriation of corporate funds after trial judge allows evidence of a non-party's extraneous litigation to discredit closely-held business' claims.

Bruening Rock Products v. Hawkeye International Trucks (Iowa Court of Appeals 2015)

- $1.4MM jury verdict for failure to provide 74,000 lb. GVWR mining trucks reinstated by Court of Appeals, reversing post-trial grant of directed verdict.

LaRhonda Austin v. CRST Expedited, Inc., No. C13-91 (N.D. Iowa 2015)

- Jury verdict against driver on her state and federal claims of sexual harassment, constructive discharge, and punitive damages, and for employer on its counterclaims.

J. Richard Ransel, Trustee of the Estate of John Kaufman v. CRST Dedicated Services, Inc., No. 2:10-cv-466 (N.D Ind. 2015)

- Jury verdict and judgment in favor of trucking employer on Plaintiff's FMLA interference claim and FMLA retaliation claim. Plaintiff's Indiana retaliatory discharge claim dismissed on directed verdict. Summary judgment previously entered on 03/24/2014 in favor of Defendant and against Plaintiff on Plaintiff's ERISA interference claim and Indiana Wage Claims statute claim.

Branimir Catipovic v. Mark Turley, No. C11-3074 (N.D. Iowa 2014)

- Jury verdict in favor of promoter of first American-style ethanol plant in Europe for unjust enrichment in the amount of $2,000,000.

Jackson and Adams v CRST Expedited, Inc., No. LACV73594 (Ia. Dist. Ct. 2014)

- Jury verdict against drivers on their public policy discharge claims and for employer on its counterclaims, including fee award.

St. Malachy Roman Catholic Congregation of Geneseo, Illinois, et al. v Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc., et al, __N.W.2d __ (Iowa 2013)

- Iowa Supreme Court applies duty to carry out transfers to intended beneficiaries to a decedent's financial advisors as well as his lawyers.

Front Range Equine Rescue, et al. v Tom Vilsack, Secretary U.S. Department of Agriculture, et al, No. 13-2187 (10th Cir. 2013)

- Court of Appeals denies animal rights activists' efforts to enjoin Iowa equine abattoir entrepreneurs.

American Family Mutual Insurance Company v Hollander, 705 F.3d 339 (8th Cir. 2013)

- Appellate court affirms $343,000 2011 jury verdict plus more than $300,000 in attorney fees and costs for defendant independent insurance agent sued by financial institution.

Eastman v Homeland Energy Solutions, LLC, 837 N.W.2d 681 (Iowa App. 2013)

- Iowa Court of Appeals refuses to extend public policy retaliation protection to employee who complained of ethanol plant's director election proceedings.

To view a complete list of Kevin Visser's representative experience, click here.

Honors & Awards

- Included in the Best Lawyers in America© list, 2027
    - Appellate Practice, Closely Held Companies and Family Businesses Law, Commercial Litigation, Employment Law – Management, Litigation – Labor and Employment, Litigation – Trusts and Estates, Transportation Law
- Included in the Best Lawyers® "Lawyer of the Year" list for Cedar Rapids
    - Litigation – Labor and Employment, 2024
    - Bet-the-Company Litigation, 2021, 2023
    - Employment Law – Management, 2015
- Listed in Legal 500 US Elite Iowa Rankings for Commercial Disputes, 2026
- AV Rating by Martindale-Hubbell®
- Ranked in Chambers USA, 2010-2026
    - Labor & Employment
    - Litigation: General Commercial
- Included in Great Plains Super Lawyers list, 2007, 2009-2025
    - Business Litigation

Professional Affiliations

- American Bar Association
    - Litigation Section
    - Division Membership in Senior Lawyers
- Iowa State Bar Association
    - Litigation Section
    - Labor and Employment Section
- Linn County Bar Association
- American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)
- Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers
- Judge David R. Hansen American Inn of Court
- USLAW NETWORK, Inc.
- United States Magistrate Judge Merit Reappointment Panel for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Iowa, 2003 & 2014
- United States Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Iowa, 2016

News & Events

2026

- Kevin Visser Included in Best Lawyers in America® 2027
- Kevin Visser Listed in Legal 500 US Elite Iowa Rankings for Commercial Disputes, 2026
- Kevin Visser Makes Chambers USA 2026 List
- Kevin Visser Included in Best Lawyers in America® 2026

Archive

- Attorney Kevin Visser to Serve as Panelist at ISBA Annual Meeting
- Kevin Visser Listed in 2025 Great Plains Super Lawyers
- Kevin Visser Presents at Iowa Acad?emy of Trial Lawyers Seminar??????
- Kevin Visser Included in Best Lawyers in America® 2025
- Kevin Visser Makes Chambers USA 2024 List

- Kevin Visser Listed in 2024 Great Plains Super Lawyers
- Kevin Visser Included in Best Lawyers® 2024 “Lawyer of the Year” for Litigation–Labor and Employment
- Kevin Visser Included in Best Lawyers in America® 2024
- Kevin Visser Listed in 2023 Great Plains Super Lawyers
- Kevin Visser Recognized as Best Lawyers® “Lawyer of the Year 2023
- Kevin Visser Included in Best Lawyers in America® 2023
- Kevin Visser Listed in 2022 Great Plains Super Lawyers
- Kevin Visser Listed in Chambers USA 2022
- Best Lawyers® 2022
- SPMB Listed in Chambers USA 2021
- Best Lawyers In America Recognizes 37 SPMB Attorneys
- 2020 Great Plains Super Lawyers Announced
- Chambers USA 2020 List Announced