



## Joseph A. Kilpatrick

### PARTNER

THE LINK VIRTUAL  
OFFICE

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### OVERVIEW

Joe is known for his vigorous defense of clients in toxic tort and product liability cases that involve allegations of exposure to asbestos, solvents and chemicals.

He coordinates the defense of asbestos and toxic tort claims in some of the most plaintiff-friendly jurisdictions in the United States, including Alabama, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, West Virginia and Wisconsin. His practice emphasizes the defense of claims for mesothelioma, lung cancer, pleural plaques and thickening, and asbestosis against manufacturers (particularly manufacturers of chemicals, paints, and coating products), premises owners, and contractors. In this role, as well as in his practice defending toxic tort and product liability cases, Joe has assisted in coordinating discovery efforts for clients nationwide, developing and implementing overall defense strategies, deposing fact witnesses and experts, developing expert witnesses, and preparing cases for trial.

As a litigator for several chemical manufacturers, Joe has experience in cases involving alleged respiratory injuries such as occupational asthma, chemically induced pneumonia and reactive airways dysfunction syndrome (RADS). He has also served as the national discovery coordinator for a chemical manufacturer's docket of trace benzene litigation involving claims for leukemia, lymphomas, myelodysplastic syndromes and other blood diseases. Joe has significant experience deposing plaintiffs, fact witnesses and expert witnesses in cases involving alleged exposures to

### Industries

Manufacturing  
Technology  
Transportation

### Services

Asbestos Litigation  
Litigation & Alternative Dispute  
Resolution  
PFAS  
Product Liability  
Product Safety  
Toxic Tort

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asbestos, benzene, vinyl chloride monomer, chlorine, hydrochloric acid, aromatic and aliphatic hydrocarbons and pool treatment chemicals.

Additionally, Joe has experience defending product liability cases for a major automobile parts manufacturer. He has handled appellate matters and has argued before the U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit. Joe has also handled commercial litigation matters, insurance coverage litigation, debt collection actions and real estate foreclosures in Missouri and Illinois.

## Experience

- Represented the world's largest manufacturer of paints and coatings in numerous toxic tort cases, specifically asbestos and trace-benzene exposure cases, in multiple state jurisdictions.
- Among other decisions:
  - *Lemmermann v. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wisconsin*, 2010 U.S. Dist., LEXIS 50477 (E.D.Wis.)
  - *Duckworth v. Ahmad*, 532 F. 3d 675 (Seventh Circuit 2008)
  - *Expert Advocates in Selection Int'l LLC v. ProOrbis LLC*, 2005 WL 3320744 (E.D.Mo. 2005)

## Recognition

- Thomson Reuters Stand-out Lawyer, 2023 and 2024
- Association of Corporate Counsel, Value Champion, 2018

## Education

- J.D., Saint Louis University School of Law
  - *Warsaw Transatlantic Law Journal*
- B.S., Missouri State University
  - Political Science

## Admissions

- Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois
- Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit

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\*Contact Joe to set up an in-person consultation by appointment in the Chicago office.

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