

KRISTEN E. GUINN

Shareholder

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PRACTICES

Accounting Malpractice Defense
Commercial Litigation

Employment Litigation

Insurance Coverage and Litigation

Labor and Employment Law

Legal Malpractice Defense

Medical Malpractice Defense

Probate Litigation

Product Liability

Professional Liability Defense

EDUCATION

Suffolk University Law School (J.D., 2006) Butler University (B.A., 2001)

ATTORNEY

Kristen is a trial attorney and litigator who represents and defends an array of people and organizations in the resolution of various disputes. She has successfully tried cases and settled disputes for clients in state and federal courts throughout Michigan.

Some of her clients include municipalities, small business owners, corporations, health care providers, landlords, attorneys, and professionals. She counsels and defends her clients in matters involving the defense of claims of professional malpractice, professional liability, contract disputes, employment matters, general liability and no-fault law, among other areas. Additionally, Kristen is well-versed in the specialized area of e-discovery and has drafted and reviewed multiple policies for her clients.

Kristen has achieved successful results for her clients in high damage cases including dismissals and favorable settlements in areas such as first and third-party no-fault litigation, premises liability, products liability, commercial litigation disputes, employment matters, general negligence, and insurance coverage actions. She has participated in multiple jury trials, bench trials, mediations, and hundreds of depositions.

Prior to joining Smith Haughey, Kristen was a public defender for the Committee for Public Counsel Services in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Kristen serves on Smith Haughey's board of directors and is past chair of the firm's Women's Business Initiative Committee. As a female shareholder of the firm, Kristen puts great emphasis on providing a positive example for young women entering the field of law.

ADMITTED

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, 2009
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan, 2008
State Bar of Michigan, 2008

Massachusetts Bar Association, 2006

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

State Bar of Michigan

Massachusetts Bar Association

Federal Bar Association

Grand Rapids Bar Association

Michigan Defense Trial Counsel

American Society of Legal Advocates

COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

Friends of Grand Rapids Parks (Former President, Executive Committee)

Planned Parenthood of West and Northern Michigan (Former Vice Chair, Board of Directors; Member, Nominating Committee, Executive Committee)

NOTEWORTHY

Included in the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America® for Commercial Litigation

Listed as a "Labor and Employment Star" in Benchmark Litigation (2021-2023) - Labor and Employment, Insurance, Product Liability and Recall, Commercial, Professional Liability

Named as a Benchmark Litigation "Future Star" (2023)

Selected for the "40 & Under Hot List" by Benchmark Litigation (2016-18)

Selected as an "Up and Coming Lawyer" by Michigan Lawyers Weekly, 2011

Selected to the 2012-2019 Michigan Rising Stars lists for Business Litigation and Civil Litigation Defense

Listed as a "Top 40 Under 40 Litigator" by the American Society of Legal Advocates

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Attorney - Committee for Public Counsel Services, New Bedford, Massachusetts

