



Motor Vehicle & Transportation

The minutes and hours immediately following an accident are critical. Our 24-hour Emergency Response Team investigates the scene, preserves and collects evidence and statements, and brings calm experience to stressful events. When litigation is necessary, we have extensive experience handling catastrophic loss, injury, and death claims for some of the most recognizable names in the transportation industry.

Proven and Recognized Trucking and Transportation Lawyers

Our trucking and transportation attorneys are experienced litigators who defend trucking companies and common carriers in complex litigation. We have extensive experience handling catastrophic loss, injury, and death claims for some of the most recognizable names in the transportation industry. We've also successfully handled cargo and property damage claims, subrogation claims, commercial litigation, regulatory issues, and labor and employment matters.

This litigation often involves regulations issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (www.fmcsa.dot.gov), and we have the knowledge and experience to guide our clients through preparing for and attending Department of Transportation audits and compliance reviews.

We recognize the unique role of trucking companies and common carriers in our society. Our attorneys understand the necessity of an aggressive defense when faced with catastrophic and large loss claims, and we employ this expertise throughout the discovery process, during alternative dispute resolution, and at trial.

In the Right Places at the Right Times: 24-Hour Emergency Response

In the trucking and transportation industry, there are no "normal business hours," and when it comes to investigating incidents and defending claims against the transportation industry, our goal is to have your business covered. That's why we've established an

PRACTICE CONTACTS

Matthew B. Champlin

Michael Reda

Bharat Varadachari

Stephanie W. Weiner

PROFESSIONALS

Joseph A Fay

Meg L. Fowler

Kathleen S. Hamilton

Peter A. Houser

Daniel C. Lytle

Adam S. McGonigle

Benjamin W. Powell

RELATED PRACTICES

Personal Injury

Emergency Response Team.

The minutes and hours after a crash matter, and our clients know we'll be there with them during those critical moments. When an accident occurs, a member of our Emergency Response Team responds immediately to preserve physical evidence and witness information, as well as to investigate the cause of the accident. An experienced transportation attorney comes to the accident scene, bringing with him or her the right investigators and accident reconstructionists. (These experts are crucial in conducting a complete investigation and in assisting us in making important determinations on downloading and interpreting event data recordings and other electronically stored information.)

With five offices located throughout the State of Illinois, an office in Missouri, and another in Indiana, we are uniquely situated near some of the most highly traveled roads in the country. When an accident occurs in Illinois, Missouri, or Indiana, our attorneys provide the necessary investigative support and ensure you receive advice from lawyers familiar with the practices, attorneys, and courts.

Case Results

MAY 25, 2023

Kladis Notches Double Win in Grundy County Personal Injury Cases

MAY 9, 2023

Melton Secures Defense Verdict in Will County Motor Vehicle Case

NOVEMBER 22, 2022

Court Awards Costs to HeplerBroom's Client After McGonigle Secures Reduced Verdict

OCTOBER 20, 2022

Melton Secures Significantly Lower Award in Cook County Personal Injury Case

SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

Moch and Fay Secure Significantly Reduced Verdict in Personal Injury Case

SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

Melton Secures Favorable Defense Verdict in Cook County Jury Trial

MARCH 1, 2022

Melton Gets Favorable Defense Verdict in Pedestrian/Vehicle Case

DECEMBER 2, 2021

Varadachari and McGonigle Receive Substantially Reduced Award in Jury Trial

NOVEMBER 19, 2021

Varadachari and McGonigle Earn Defense Verdict

MAY 13, 2021

Hamilton and Neill Get Favorable Jury Verdict in Federal Court Trial

MAY 24, 2016

Varadachari and Harriss Obtained Defense Verdict for Prairie Farms Dairy

NOVEMBER 5, 2014

Reda and Champlin Win Summary Judgment for United States Steel

JULY 15, 2014

Hamilton Obtains Defense Verdict

JUNE 25, 2014

Lytle Secures Defense Verdict

AUGUST 9, 2013

Varadachari and Deterding Obtain Defense Verdict

FEBRUARY 28, 2013

Varadachari Prevails on Motion for Summary Judgment

OCTOBER 2, 2012

Fowler Obtains Favorable Verdict for Client

Insights

News

AUGUST 17, 2023 | RECOGNITION

28 HeplerBroom Attorneys Honored with Inclusion on 2024 Best Lawyers Lists

MAY 4, 2023 | FIRM NEWS

Varadachari Selected to Board of Directors of National Defense Attorney Organization

JUNE 8, 2021 | RECOGNITION

Magee and Noce Named to Elite List of Powerful Defense Attorneys

JANUARY 28, 2014 | FIRM NEWS

Varadachari and Deterding Obtain Verdict Rated as 7th Best in the State of Missouri for 2013

Publications

OCTOBER 19, 2021 | PUBLICATION

Reda and McGonigle Publish Article on Data Downloads for Vehicles Involved in Accidents

JANUARY 21, 2020 | PUBLICATION

Reda and Millaway Publish Article on Trucking Companies' Heightened Need for Liability Vigilance

OCTOBER 30, 2019 | PUBLICATION

Varadachari Co-Authors Article for Claims and Litigation Management Journal

OCTOBER 2, 2018 | PUBLICATION

Varadachari Co-Authors Article on Trucking Industry Defense for CLM Magazine

JANUARY 2, 2018 | PUBLICATION

Reda Article Tackles Defending Claims Asserting Commercial Truck Drivers Can Commit Professional Malpractice

DECEMBER 8, 2016 | PUBLICATION

Reda and Harriss Publish Article on Ensuring Admissibility of Social Media Evidence

NOVEMBER 3, 2015 | PUBLICATION

Reda and Harriss Publish Article in DRI'd *In Transit*

MARCH 17, 2015 | PUBLICATION

Reda and Harris Author Article for DRI's *In Transit* trucking law newsletter

AUGUST 31, 2011 | PUBLICATION

Reda and Murphy Publish Article in DRI *Trucking Law Newsletter*

Events

DECEMBER 1, 2022 | SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

Varadachari to Discuss Voir Dire at Claims and Litigation Management Professionals Meeting

NOVEMBER 2, 2021 | SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

Varadachari Discusses Transportation Verdicts

DECEMBER 2, 2020 | SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

Varadachari Addresses Transportation Carriers and Insurance Claims Professionals

SEPTEMBER 21, 2017 | SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

Reda Speaking at Annual DRI Meeting

DECEMBER 5, 2014 | SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

Reda to Speak at American Conference Institute's 5th National Forum on Defending and Managing Trucking Litigation

JUNE 23, 2014 | SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

Varadachari to Speak at Claims and Litigation Management Alliance 2014 Transportation Conference

DECEMBER 3, 2012 | SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

Reda Spoke at American Conference Institute's Third National Forum on Defending and Managing Trucking Litigation

Blog Posts

AUGUST 24, 2023 | BLOG

Missouri Supreme Court Declines to Address Constitutionality of Missouri's "No Pay, No Play" Statute

JULY 6, 2023 | BLOG

"Forum Shopping" Prevention Added to the Illinois Civil Practice Act

FEBRUARY 28, 2023 | BLOG

Confusing Jury Instructions Create Unexpected Liability for Trucking Brokers and Shippers

[APRIL 22, 2022 | BLOG](#)

Gant is No Longer: Illinois Supreme Court Holds Direct Negligence Claims Against Trucking Company Appropriate Even Where Company Admits Vicarious Liability

[JANUARY 13, 2022 | BLOG](#)

Missouri Court Refuses to Extend Personal Jurisdiction to Truck Driver Driving for Missouri Company

[SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 | BLOG](#)

Illinois Supreme Court to Decide Viability and Scope of Gant: Negligent Training Claims Against Employers for Employee's Motor Vehicle Accident

[FEBRUARY 4, 2021 | BLOG](#)

Vehicle Infotainment System Data Cannot be Overlooked

[DECEMBER 8, 2020 | BLOG](#)

Avoiding the Potholes [and Pitfalls] with Last-Mile Delivery

[SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 | BLOG](#)

Missouri Court Rules No-Go on Expanding the Logo Liability Doctrine

[AUGUST 6, 2020 | BLOG](#)

Illinois Department of Insurance Cannot Decide Owner-Operator Employment Dispute, Appeals Court Rules

[JANUARY 8, 2015 | BLOG](#)

Lessons from a Deposition: Insight into One Plaintiff's Counsel's Strategy for Establishing Broker Liability

[JANUARY 8, 2015 | BLOG](#)

"Wait, I didn't sign that contract..." How You May Find Yourself Bound to Someone Else's Forum-Selection Clause