



Blake D. Smith



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BIOGRAPHY

Blake Smith is member of the firm's Litigation and Dispute Resolution Group. He counsels clients in cases ranging from general contract disputes, class action litigation, civil rights litigation, premises liability claims, alleged violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and other general litigation matters.

In addition, he aids the firm's efforts in providing free legal services to low-income individuals. Blake represents people charged with felonies through the firm's partnership with the Missouri Coalition for the Right to Counsel and minors in delinquency hearings in Jackson County, Missouri.

He graduated magna cum laude with pro bono honors from the University Missouri – Kansas City School of Law. While in law school, Blake worked as a pro se writ clerk at the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri. In that role, he conducted legal research and advised the assigned federal judge concerning Section 1983 actions, Bivens actions, and federal habeas actions.

Blake interned for Judge Gary Witt of the Missouri Court of Appeals and for Judge Roseann Ketchmark of the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri. Additionally, he interned at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, where he aided investigations into complex trading activity. Blake also interned at two private firms – one focusing on personal injury litigation and the other on trusts and estates. As well, he participated in a clinic dedicated to providing pro bono legal assistance to low-income entrepreneurs.

He served as an editor for UMKC's Law Review and represented his school in various academic competitions, including mock trials, moot court appellate arguments, settlement negotiations, and term sheet negotiations. Blake received the honor of being the first advocate to represent UMKC at Top Gun, the invitation-only mock trial competition limited to the top 16 advocacy programs in the nation; he finished as a semifinalist.

Upon his graduation, UMKC's faculty nominated Blake to the Order of the Barristers, a national organization dedicated to advancing the effective use of oral advocacy and brief writing.

MEMBERSHIPS

- KCMBBA

DISTINCTIONS

- Order of the Barristers

PRACTICE AREAS

- [Litigation and Dispute Resolution](#)

EDUCATION

- University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Law (J.D.), *magna cum laude*
- University of Missouri – Columbia (B.S.B.A.)

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Missouri

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri

- American College of Trial Lawyers Medal for Excellence in Advocacy

Contact Blake Smith at 816.292.8260 or bsmith@spencerfane.com.