



## Heather H. Neubauer

### Partner

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📍 Minneapolis, Bismarck, Chicago



### Overview

Heather is Chair of Meagher + Geer's Products Liability, Asbestos, Mass Tort/Toxic Tort, and Safety and Environmental practice groups. She is also one of the firm's leaders, serving as a member of its Management Committee.

Heather focuses her litigation practice on the following types of matters:

- ◆ Asbestos
- ◆ Construction Defect
- ◆ General Liability
- ◆ Mass Toxic Torts
- ◆ Personal Injury
- ◆ Products Liability

The emphasis of her products liability and mass toxic tort cases involve high-risk asbestos and benzene cases in Minnesota, North Dakota, Arizona, Wisconsin, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Montana, and South Dakota.

She has represented manufacturers, distributors, fabricators, suppliers, and contractors in numerous cases throughout the years. Heather is involved at the national counsel level in the defense of a refractory contractor and gasket supplier. She has also defended, at a national level, a large roofing and siding company and valve manufacturer. In addition, she works on matters involving large construction defects and general products liability claims. She represents manufacturers, suppliers, and contractors in commercial and residential cases, employment law, general liability, general civil litigation, and appeals.

Prior to joining Meagher + Geer, Heather was a partner at a nationwide firm, where she managed its Minnesota Mass Toxic Torts Group. Heather clerked at the Minnesota Court of Appeals for the Honorable Gordon W. Shumaker from 2002 to 2003,

### Services

- ◆ Mass Tort/Toxic Tort
- ◆ Products Liability
- ◆ Professional Liability
- ◆ Construction
- ◆ Safety, Toxic Tort & Environmental

### State Bar Admissions

- ◆ Minnesota, 2002
- ◆ Illinois, 2020
- ◆ Missouri, 2020
- ◆ Montana, 2020
- ◆ North Dakota, 2009
- ◆ South Dakota, 2022
- ◆ Wisconsin, 2008

### Federal Court Admissions

- ◆ United States Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, 2019
- ◆ United States District Court, District of Minnesota, 2003
- ◆ United States District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin, 2010
- ◆ United States District Court, District of Montana, 2022
- ◆ United States District Court, District of North Dakota, 2012
- ◆ United States District Court, District of South Dakota, 2022
- ◆ United States District Court, Western District of Wisconsin, 2015

where she worked on criminal and civil law cases. During this time, she was one of the editors of the Court's 2003 Standard of Review Manual.

Outside of the profession, Heather also enjoys spending time with her family, friends and dog, Phoenix; golfing; boating; exercising; traveling; cooking; serving as a "MomUber" most evenings and a Superfan of her children's sports teams at Holy Family; and supporting the alumnae of her alma mater, St. Ben's.

## Education

- ◆ William Mitchell College of Law, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2002
- ◆ College of St. Benedict, B.A., *cum laude*, 1999



## Experience

### TRIALS

- ◆ *Cinda Haugen, individually and on behalf of the Estate of James Nodsle v. A.H. Bennet Company, et al.*, 09-2016-CV-02156, February 27, 2018 - North Dakota
- ◆ *Violet Pfenning v. A.H. Bennet Company, et al.*, 09-2014-CV-01770, April 4, 2017 - North Dakota
- ◆ *Judy Geier, individually and on behalf of the Estate of Douglas Geier v. A.H. Bennet Company, et al.*, 09-2014-CV-01765, October 4, 2016 - North Dakota
- ◆ *Maynard Borner v. A.H. Bennet Company, et al.*, 09-2014-CV-01250, August 30, 2016 - North Dakota
- ◆ *James Rheault v. A. O. Smith Corporation, et al.*, 09-2014-CV-01773, April 26, 2016 - North Dakota
- ◆ *Darrough v. NIBCO, et al.*, 2011 - Missouri
- ◆ *Linda Wolff, individually and as personal representative of the estate of Julian Wolff v. Armstrong International, Inc., et al.*, 08-1861, 2010 - South Dakota

## Professional Affiliations

- ◆ Defense Research Institute (DRI)
- ◆ Minnesota State Bar Association
- ◆ Hennepin County Bar Association
  - ◇ Chair of Insurance and Tort Law Section (2016-2018)
- ◆ Minnesota Women Lawyers

## Community Involvement

- ◆ College of Saint Benedict's Alumnae Association Board of Directors (2014-2016)
- ◆ Chanhassen Athletic Association Board of Directors (2014-2020)

- ◆ Edina High School and Holy Family Catholic High School Mock Trial Attorney Coach (2010-2017)
- ◆ Chanhassen soccer and basketball coach for youth teams (2012-2016)

## Notable

### Accolades

- ◆ Selected for inclusion in the Best Lawyers in America® in the areas of Construction, Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions – Defendants and Products Liability Litigation – Defendants, 2018-2023
- ◆ Selected for inclusion in the Minnesota Super Lawyers® list in the area of Personal Injury Products: Defense, Thomson Reuters, (only five percent of the lawyers in the state were selected), 2020-2022
- ◆ Selected for inclusion in the Minnesota Rising Stars list, Thomson Reuters, (only 2.5 percent of the Minnesota attorneys are given this honor), 2007-2009, 2011-2017
- ◆ Named an Up and Coming Attorney by Minnesota Lawyer, 2005

### Professional Certifications & Special Training

- ◆ Qualified civil neutral mediator and arbitrator under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice

### Presentations

- ◆ World of Women - Women in the Legal Profession (June 2022)
- ◆ Women in Business, Perrin's Asbestos Litigation Conference (September 2016)
- ◆ A National Overview & Outlook: Top 10 Things Defendants & Plaintiffs Should Know About Insurance Claims, Perrin's Asbestos Litigation Conference (September 2012)
- ◆ The New Lawyer Experience: Law Firm and Solo Practitioners: Candid Advice (2006)
- ◆ Eight Cases You Need to Know—Examining the Minnesota Appellate Courts' Most Recent and Relevant Decisions (2006)
- ◆ Elimination of Bias: Gender Issues in the Legal Workplace (2005)

### Publications

- ◆ Co-author, "Laska v. Anoka County: A Quest for Justice for an Infant Who Died of SIDS Resulting in Appellate Court Finding Day Care Helper Owes a Duty to Protect" 32 Wm. Mitchell L. Rev. 1549 (2006)