



## Nicholas J. O'Connell

### Partner

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### Overview

Nick brought his litigation and business consulting experience to Meagher + Geer in 2015, after practicing as a shareholder in another Twin Cities law firm. Over the years Nick has deliberately broadened his practice into many specialty areas of litigation. He appreciates the changing landscape that variety brings to his practice. This intentionally diverse practice has forced him to become practical, efficient, versatile and a quick study. Like many Meagher + Geer lawyers, he handles matters vertically—from pre-suit investigation to the conclusion of an appeal.

Nick's clients include corporate entities and their insurers in the areas of commercial litigation—including employment, product liability, professional liability, construction, coverage, extra-contractual/bad faith and personal injury defense. Nick is included in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the area of Personal Injury Litigation - Defendants. He has been selected for inclusion in *Minnesota Super Lawyers*® - *Rising Stars* lists regularly since 2007.

Nick received his J.D., *cum laude*, from the William Mitchell College of Law, and his B.A. from St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. He is licensed to practice in the state and federal courts of Minnesota, Wisconsin and North Dakota, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Seventh and Eighth Circuits and tribal courts in North Dakota. He is a member of the Defense Research Institute, Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association, and the Ramsey County, Minnesota, Wisconsin and North Dakota bar associations.

### Education

- ◆ William Mitchell College of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2004
- ◆ St. Johns University, B.A., Dean's List, 2001

### Services

- ◆ Wills, Probate, Estates, Trusts and Related Litigation
- ◆ Commercial Litigation
- ◆ Employment
- ◆ Professional Liability
- ◆ Construction
- ◆ Insurance
  - ◇ Insurance - Bad Faith
  - ◇ Insurance Coverage
  - ◇ Insurance - Reinsurance

### State Bar Admissions

- ◆ Minnesota, 2004
- ◆ Wisconsin, 2005
- ◆ North Dakota, 2006

### Federal Court Admissions

- ◆ United States Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
- ◆ United States Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- ◆ United States District Court, District of Minnesota
- ◆ United States District Court, District of North Dakota
- ◆ United States District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin
- ◆ United States District Court, Western District of Wisconsin



## Experience

### Representative Cases

- ◆ *Berg v. Gulf Underwriters Ins. Co.*, 756 N.W.2d 478, 2008 WL 2522341 (Wis. Ct. App. 2008)(summary judgment order which granted the dismissal of our insurance company client in a products liability action was affirmed by the Court of Appeals)
- ◆ *O'Grady v. Marathon County Child Support Agency*, 2006 WL 1715473 (D. Minn. 2006), affirmed by *O'Grady v. Marathon County Child Support Agency*, 282 Fed.Appx. 496 (8th Cir. 2008)(summary judgment dismissal of municipal defendant in a RICO and civil conspiracy case)
- ◆ *Rockwell Automation, Inc. v. National Union Fire Ins. Co. of Pittsburgh*, 544 F.3d 752 (7th Cir. 2008)(summary judgment for excess insurance carrier in a coverage matter relating to insurance coverage for post-judgment interest)
- ◆ *Pressler v. Theis*, 2007 WL 3347632 (Minn. Ct. App. 2007)
- ◆ *Hormel Foods Corp. v. Medina & Medina, Inc.*, 2006 WL 2735491 (D. Minn. 2006)(successful transfer of venue case back to Puerto Rico where our client resided and the contract was entered)
- ◆ *Goetzka v. City of Black River Falls*, 706 N.W.2d 703, 2005 WL 2665489 (Wis. Ct. App. 2005)(appeal of a summary judgment order which dismissed the plaintiff's claims for improper zoning by the state)
- ◆ *Pribble v. Edina Care Center*, 2003 WL 945782 (Minn. Ct. App. 2003)(represented the State of Minnesota, Department of Economic Security. Affirmed the state's denial of unemployment benefits to the plaintiff)

### Professional Affiliations

- ◆ Minnesota State Bar Association
- ◆ State Bar of Wisconsin
- ◆ State Bar Association of North Dakota
- ◆ Ramsey County Bar Association
- ◆ Defense Research Institute
- ◆ Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association

## Notable

### Accolades

- ◆ Named by The Best Lawyers in America® as its 2022 Minneapolis Personal Injury Litigation-Defendants "Lawyer of the Year"
- ◆ Selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® in the area of Personal Injury Litigation-Defendants, 2019-2023
- ◆ Named "Attorney of the Year" by Tubman for pro bono legal services provided to victims of domestic abuse, 2010

- ◆ Recognized as a "Rising Star" by Thomson Reuters, 2007-2008, 2010-2018

Publications

- ◆ Author, Practical Considerations for Effective Mediation, June 2011, For the Defense, Defense Research Institute (DRI)
- ◆ Editing Author, Two Chapters in MNCLE’s Motor Vehicle Accident Deskbook