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James M. Sweeney

Associate

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Minneapolis

Overview

James is an associate in the firm's commercial litigation practice. Hailing from North Dakota, he relocated to Minneapolis where he graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School and served as an editor for the *Minnesota Law Review*. His legal journey has since coursed through in-house legal departments, public service, and private practice, resulting in a diverse exposure to civil issues impacting everyone from individuals to large organizations. Adapting to so many different roles, James brings a sharpened, detail-focused approach to solving legal issues that considers all perspectives.

Underneath every legal issue, however, are the impacted parties who face uncertainty, anxiety, and unknown questions. James's calling to law was driven by a desire to help alleviate those burdens. He communicates unfiltered information, translates technical legal language into an understandable form, and makes himself available when help is needed. Helping non-lawyers understand is just as important to James as resolving the legal issue itself.

James's eclectic background provides understanding to every client's interactions, motivations, and particular needs. He understands laws impact a wide range of individuals in many ways—from raising utility rates to corporate taxation—leaving each impacted party with distinct needs and burdens that are unique to their situation. James takes every case with the sensitivity that, regardless of complexity, the legal issue at hand is vital to the individual affected.

Aside from his legal work, James grows orchids, officiates high school and youth hockey, and performs as a session and live drummer for musical artists.

Education

- University of Minnesota Law School, J.D., 2017
- Minnesota State University Moorhead, B.A., 2006

Judicial Clerkships

Services

- Commercial Litigation
- Construction

State Bar Admissions

- Minnesota, 2017

- Law Clerk to the Honorable Mary R. Vasaly, Fourth Judicial Court of Minnesota, 2018-2021
- Law Clerk to the Honorable James A. Moore, Fourth Judicial Court of Minnesota, 2022-2024

Experience

Professional Affiliations

- Minnesota State Bar Association
- Hennepin County Bar Association

Notable

Publications

- Copyrighted Laws: Enabling and Preserving Access to Incorporated Private Standards, 101 Minn. L. Rev. 1331 (2017)