



Grace Keegan Johnson

Special Counsel

T 479-973-5253

F 479-973-0520

gjohnson@hallestill.com

Grace joined Hall Estill as Special Counsel in 2019. She has been practicing law in Northwest Arkansas for more than 10 years, serving clients in various industries, including hospitality, construction, agriculture, trucking, medical, retail, food and beverage, and assorted service industries, as well as serving individuals in the community. Grace's areas of practice include Intellectual Property issues, particularly, Trademark and Copyright law; Employment law; Appellate Practice; Contract disputes and drafting; and Business and Commercial law; as well as Estate Planning and Probate. Grace's practice includes litigation, as well as transactional projects.

Grace spent 20 years in the hospitality industry prior to embarking on her law career in 2009. She brings to her practice and to her clients, the benefit of experience in a service industry and addressing legal issues, such as employment, liability and ADA issues, as well as contract drafting and negotiation, from the business manager and business owner's perspective.

Grace's specific experience includes:

- Worked with Defense Counsel and drafted appeals to affirm a defense verdict in two large exposure medical malpractice cases, both affirmed upon review by the Arkansas Supreme Court.
- Represented International Company and North American affiliate in prosecuting a trademark infringement, copyright infringement and deceptive trade practices action.
- Worked with Defense Counsel and drafted appeal of first impression issue regarding statutory credit for payments in EEOC claims towards related workers compensation claim.
- Successfully argued appeal to 8th Circuit to affirm denial of Motion to Compel Arbitration in intellectual property infringement action.
- Worked with Defense Counsel and drafted appeal with complex constitutional challenges regarding affirmation of workers compensation claim denial.

- Worked with Defense Counsel in litigating discovery issue regarding protected patient information pursuant to the Federal Patient Safety Act and Arkansas Peer Review statutes.
- Drafted company documents, policies and procedures and prepared company handbooks.
- Drafted, reviewed, consulted and negotiated Business contracts and agreements.
- Drafted and negotiated Intellectual Property Cease and Desist demands.
- Litigation of complex contract disputes in construction, employment, intellectual property, insurance, and independent contractor agreements.
- Litigation of liability in civil rights, insurance, product liability, trucking, healthcare, deceptive trade practices, intellectual property issues.

Education

- University of Arkansas School of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2009)
- Bradley University (B.S. in Business Administration and Marketing, 1986)

Admissions

- Arkansas
- Missouri
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

Practices

- Appellate
- Copyrights
- Corporate Services
- Guardianships
- General Corporate
- Labor & Employment
- Trademarks
- Labor & Employment

Legal Experience

- 2019-Present Hall Estill
- 2009-2019 Bassett Law Firm

Professional Involvement

- Arkansas Bar Association
- Washington County Bar Association
- Missouri Bar Association
- Member and Treasurer, Putnam Inns of Court

Teaching/Lecture Experience

- PCMA Heartland Chapter Presentation (Bentonville 21C) – The Legal Aspects of Social Media Marketing April 2013

Published Articles

- NW Arkansas Attorney Grace Johnson guest commentary - “Legal Landmines in a Digital World.”