

HEPLERBROOM LLC

BHARAT VARADACHARI

Partner | St. Louis, MO

bharat.varadachari@heplerbroom.com
(314) 480-4153

Bharat Varadachari focuses his practice on defending insurance companies in extra-contractual litigation as well as trials involving complex business litigation matters.

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- Bad-Faith Litigation
- Employment-Related Matters
- Trucking/Large Commercial Vehicle Accidents
- General Insurance Defense
- Products and Premises Liability
- Motor Vehicle Accidents
- Construction Defects
- Benzene Exposure/Toxic Tort
- Evaluation of Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3 Site Assessments
- Jones Act/Maritime Matters

Practices:

- Construction
- Employment & Labor
- Insurance Services
- Motor Vehicle Accidents
- Trucking & Transportation

Education:

- St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., 1999
- St. Louis University School of Public Health, Masters in Health Administration, 1999
- University of Illinois, B.A. in History, with minor in Microbiology, 1994

Bar Admissions:

- Missouri
- Illinois
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit
- U.S. District Courts for the
  - Eastern District of Missouri
  - Western District of Missouri
  - Southern District of Illinois

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Results

- Defense verdict in the City of St. Louis for national hotel chain in a slip and fall case where plaintiff required two surgeries and was forecasted to have two more as a result of his fall.
- Defense verdict for a dairy in a Peoria County (Illinois) wrongful death case arising out of a trucking/automobile accident. Plaintiff had asked for $15 million. Defense was able to prove that truck driver was not defendant's agent.
- Defense verdict for a motorcycle dealership limiting Plaintiff's damages to $180,000 in a wrongful death case. Plaintiff alleged that the dealership negligently modified a motorcycle, resulting in the death of a passenger. Plaintiff asked the jury to return a verdict of between $2.5 million and $4 million. Plaintiff's last settlement demand before trial was $2.5 million.
- Defense verdict for trucking company. Plaintiffs alleged Mr. Varadachari's client initiated a right turn from the left lane. One plaintiff sustained a fractured skull, broken nose, broken pelvis, and broken ribs. The co-plaintiff sustained neck and back injuries.
- Defense verdict for insurance carrier in an uninsured motorist case. Mr. Varadachari defended the insurance carrier on allegations that there was a phantom vehicle/uninsured motorist that struck the co-defendant's vehicle. Jury placed 100 percent of fault on the co-defendant.
- Defense verdict for trucking company in wrongful death case. Plaintiffs alleged that Mr. Varadachari's client's employee struck a pedestrian on the shoulder of the highway, killing him. Plaintiffs had requested $3.3 million from the jury.

Honors & Awards

- AV Preeminent® Attorney by Martindale-Hubbell
- Best Lawyers in America (2024-2027)
- Nominated for Lon Hocker Award (2006)
    - Awarded to lawyers under 35 years of age who have demonstrated excellence in the art of trial advocacy in the State of Missouri
- Missouri Lawyers Media
    - Top Defense Wins of 2024 (Co-recipient)

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    - 7th Best Defense Verdict in the State of Missouri for 2013 (Co-recipient)
- Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers (2023)
    - Rising Star (2010-2012)
- *St. Louis Small Business Monthly's* "Top 100 People to Know to Succeed in Business" (2024)

Professional Associations

- American Board of Trial Advocates
- Association of Defense Trial Attorneys
    - Board of Directors (2023-2025)
- St. Louis County Bar Association
    - President (2023-2024)
    - Executive Board
- The Lawyers Association of St. Louis
    - President (2018-2019)
- Claims & Litigation Management Alliance
    - Transportation Committee
- Illinois Defense Counsel
- Illinois Trucking Association
- Inns of Court
- Missouri Bar Association
    - Board of Governors
- Missouri Organization of Defense Lawyers
    - Board of Directors
    - Vice Chair, Legislative Committee
- Missouri Trucking Association

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- Central and Southern Districts of Illinois
    - Education Committee