



## LARRY E. HEPLER

Partner

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Larry E. Hepler focuses his practice on the defense of complex, multiparty civil cases and class actions involving a wide range of subjects, including all aspects of consumer fraud, personal injury, products liability, pharmaceutical, commercial, toxic torts, construction, and insurance litigation. He has represented clients in numerous jurisdictions, with a primary emphasis in Illinois and Missouri.

## Results

NOVEMBER 4, 2015

**Illinois Supreme Court Wipes Out \$10.1 Billion Judgment Against Philip Morris, Again**

JANUARY 17, 2014

**Hepler, Bauer, Bays, Kinney and Kellett Obtained Reversal of Class Certification**

APRIL 26, 2011

**Hepler, Bauer, Speciale, and Kuchar Defeat Plaintiffs' Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment in Multi-Million Dollar Claim**

## PRACTICES

Class & Mass Tort Actions

Pharmaceutical & Medical Devices

Products Liability

Tobacco

Toxic Tort

## BAR ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- Missouri
- United States Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit
- U.S. District Courts for the
  - Northern, Central, and Southern Districts of Illinois
  - Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri

## Honors

### Honors & Awards

- AV Preeminent® Attorney by Martindale-Hubbell
- Best Lawyers in America (2007-2025)
- FDCC Lifetime Achievement Award (2025)
- Illinois Leading Lawyer (2003-2025)
  - Advisory Board Member
  - Featured in *Leading Lawyers Network Magazine-Business Edition*, "Plaintiffs' Lawyers Need Their 'A' Game When Facing this Madison County Defense Attorney" (2009)
- Illinois Super Lawyer (2005-2024)
- International Who's Who of Product Liability Defence [sic] Lawyers (2016-2017)

### Professional Associations

- American Bar Association
- American Board of Trial Advocates
- American College of Trial Lawyers
- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis
- Defense Research Institute
- Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel
  - Board of Directors
  - Chair, Economics of Law Practice Substantive Law Section
  - Vice Chair, Technology Committee
  - Chair, Trial Tactics Substantive Law Section
  - Litigation Management College
    - Regional Vice President
    - Faculty Member
- Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel
- Illinois State Bar Association
- Madison County (Illinois) Bar Association
- The Missouri Bar

### EDUCATION

- Washington & Lee University, J.D., magna cum laude, 1968
- Bucknell University, B.A. in Economics, 1965

### LAW SCHOOL HONORS/INVOLVEMENT

- Order of the Coif
- Omicron Delta Kappa
- *Washington & Lee Law Review*
  - Articles Editor

## Insights

### Events & Speaking Engagements

Mr. Hepler has given numerous presentations on legal topics to groups such as Council of Owners and Construction Associates, Defense Research Institute, Federation of Defense & Corporation Counsel, Illinois Bar Association Law Education Series, and Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education.

- Council of Owners and Construction Associates
  - “Comparison of Construction Safety Act of 2008 to Structural Work Act”
- Defense Research Institute
  - “Advanced Technology in the Law Practice”
- Federation of Defense & Corporation Counsel
  - “Developments & Trends in Product Liability Cases”
  - “Winning the Pre-Trial Battle - If You Can’t Beat Them, Join Them: Leaving it Behind”
  - “Closed Head Injuries – Cross Examination of the Neuropsychologist”
  - “Pre-Trial Strategies – Use of Focus Groups, Mock Trials, Jury Selection Techniques & Settlement Strategies”
  - “Class Actions and State Consumer Fraud Statutes”
  - “Diary for Federal Litigation in the Wake of the 1993 Amendments to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure”
  - “The Use of Technology in the Courtroom”
  - “The Federal Rules and Their Application to Your Practice”
  - “Law Office Management and the Use of Technology”
  - “Challenging the Status Quo, Reversing Your Litigation Tactics”
  - “Anatomy of a Hellhole”
  - “Use of Summation and Application to Trial”
  - “Trial Witnesses – Selection, Care, Feeding & Understanding Mastery of Direct Examination”
- Illinois Bar Association Law Education Series
  - “Hot Tips – Proven and Winning Ways in Personal Injury Cases” (1993)
  - “Products Liability: In-Depth Study of Litigation Involving Products” (1992)
  - “How to Present and Defend a Personal Injury Case” (1991)
  - “Hot Tips on Handling and Avoiding Common Settlement and Trial Problems” (1991)
- Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education
  - “Hot Tips for Responding to Plaintiff’s Request for Money”

- "How to Minimize Plaintiff's Disability and Suffering"
- "Expert and Human Factors Testimony"

## Publications

- "Comparison of Consumer Fraud Statutes Across the 50 States," *FDCC Quarterly* (Spring 2005).
- "The Federal Rules and Their Application to Your Practice," *FDCC Quarterly*.
- "Trial Witnesses – Selection, Care, Feeding & Understanding – Mastery of Direct Examination," *FDCC Quarterly Trial Masters*.

## News

MARCH 3, 2025 | RECOGNITION

Hepler Receives Lifetime Achievement Award from International Defense Counsel Organization

JUNE 24, 2021 | FIRM NEWS

Hepler Celebrates 50 Years at the Firm

OCTOBER 18, 2018 | RECOGNITION

Hepler Honored by Missouri Bar for 50 Years of Membership