



Ashley S. Koda

Associate

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[Ashley Koda defends clients in high-stakes mass tort and product liability matters.](#)

Ashley has successfully defended a diverse range of clients, from small local businesses to multimillion-dollar corporations, in matters with demands of up to \$100 million. She has represented national brands and manufacturers, car dealerships, trucking companies, and general contractors. Ashley is experienced in all aspects of litigation from inception through trial. In particular, she has a strong reputation for her motion practice and has substantial experience drafting and arguing motions for summary judgment, motions in limine, and *Daubert* motions. Her ability to identify and attack weaknesses in opposing party's arguments positions clients for favorable outcomes.

Before joining Tucker Ellis, Ashley practiced at an insurance defense firm where her team frequently "parachuted" into complex late-stage cases for purposes of trial.

While in law school, Ashley interned for Judge Franklin U. Valderrama of the Chancery Division of Cook County where she assisted in drafting judicial opinions and gained valuable insight into judicial decision-making.

Ashley is fluent in Polish and is learning Spanish. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, reading, kayaking the Chicago River, and running along the lakefront trail on summer days. She has traveled to more than 40 countries and is always on the lookout for her next great destination.

Education

- Chicago-Kent College of Law (J.D., cum laude, 2015); CALI Award for highest grade in Complex Litigation
- DePaul University (B.A., 2011)

State Admissions

- Illinois, 2015
- Texas, 2020

Federal Admissions

- United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois
- United States District Court, Northern District of Indiana

Languages

- Polish

Service Areas

- Mass Tort & Product Liability
- Construction
- Medical Malpractice Litigation

Experience

- Obtained a complete defense verdict in a week-long trial in Wichita, Kansas, where the plaintiff claimed a significant traumatic brain injury as a result of the defendant's industrial garage door falling onto his head; prior counsel advised the client to admit liability and try the case on damages only, but after the case was transferred, the strategic decision to deny liability resulted in a complete defense verdict
- Obtained summary judgment on behalf of a non-profit organization in a motor vehicle accident case involving three lawsuits and five plaintiffs consolidated for discovery where plaintiffs' total medical specials were over \$1 million and involved significant injuries
- Successfully defended a local car dealership in a week-long trial in Cook County, Illinois
- Obtained a defense verdict after 15 minutes of jury deliberations in a three-day solo trial where the plaintiff claimed injuries to his ankle as a result of an incident at a retail store and alleged theories of premises liability and negligence
- Drafted a successful Motion to Dismiss and Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings on behalf of the City of Chicago and a police officer in a police shooting case
- Drafted a successful Motion for Summary Judgment on behalf of clients (seller and manufacturer) in a products case involving the Flammable Fabrics Act; the plaintiff suffered serious burns when the sweater she was wearing caught fire

Honors

- Illinois Super Lawyers Rising Stars® (2024)

In the Community

- Illinois Women's Bar Association
- Chicago Bar Association