



## Jason K. Smathers

ASSOCIATE

MILWAUKEE, WI

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### OVERVIEW

A litigator, Jason advocates for clients, moving them forward in alignment with their business goals.

Jason is a litigator assisting nationwide corporations, small businesses, municipalities and individuals across sectors on a broad range of complex matters. He has experience on large-scale research projects as well as writing and collaborating with legal teams to find unique client solutions. Jason has assisted legal defense teams with innovative strategies regarding:

- Trade secrets
- Intellectual property
- Software development
- Family law
- Mortgage priority
- First Amendment issues

Before joining the firm, Jason worked for six years as an investigative journalist, covering Wisconsin political and governmental news for various outlets, including the Associated Press and a *USA Today* newsroom. This background allows Jason to understand that clients' legal matters must be communicated – and solved – within the context of their real-world practicalities, budgets, timelines and goals.

### Services

Commercial Litigation

ERISA & Employee Benefits  
Litigation

Litigation & Alternative Dispute  
Resolution

Toxic Tort

## Experience

- Represented manufacturing client when recently terminated product distributor claimed Minnesota Franchise Act violations, attempting to restore its distributorship and stall newly hired distributor. Convinced court to deny said motion.

## Recognition

- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*
  - Commercial Litigation, 2025
  - Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law, 2025
- Wisconsin Access to Justice Commission, Wisconsin Pro Bono Honor Society, 2020

## Education

- J.D., University of Iowa College of Law
  - *Journal of Corporation Law*, executive editor
  - with high distinction
- B.A., University of Wisconsin-Madison

## Admissions

- Wisconsin
- Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

## Community Leadership

A Husch Blackwell Summer Associate in 2017 and 2018, Jason was recognized for outstanding achievement for logging the most pro bono hours across all firm offices in 2018. He also dedicated his time and talents to the following initiatives:

- Equal Justice Foundation, social media coordinator, 2017-2018
- Iowa Society of Healthcare Attorneys, volunteer editor, 2017-2018



2025 Best Lawyers Ones to  
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