HUSCH BLACKWELL



Tanner M. Cook

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

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OVERVIEW

A strategic thinker, Tanner leverages his broad legal experience to provide top-notch representation to clients facing high-stakes litigation.

Tanner focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation, particularly consumer class actions, antitrust litigation, and multidistrict litigation. With his skill at handling complicated disputes, clients frequently turn to him for assistance with particularly challenging lawsuits. Tanner works with trial teams across the firm to develop effective case strategies and prides himself on the ability to take control of a case from start to finish.

In addition to his commercial litigation practice, Tanner regularly assists on white collar defense matters, especially in the False Claims Act context. He has significant experience defending companies from *qui tam* whistleblower suits at every stage of the litigation process, combining his deep substantive knowledge of the law with creative defense strategies. Tanner also regularly publishes articles and gives presentations on critical developments in False Claims Act litigation.

Industries

Education
Healthcare
Life Sciences

Services

Antitrust & Competition
Antitrust Litigation
Class Action Defense
Commercial Litigation
Consumer Fraud Litigation
False Claims Act
Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution

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Experience

CLASS ACTIONS/ANTITRUST LITIGATION/MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION (MDL)

- Successfully defended national sporting goods manufacturer accused of violating state antitrust laws, securing a complete dismissal of all claims with prejudice.
- Served on team representing leading pharmacy benefit manager in MDL in Florida federal court, obtaining both a dismissal with prejudice and an important decision defending the use of mail-order pharmacies to deliver medications.
- Drafted a motion for summary judgment in a TCPA class action which resulted in a complete dismissal of the plaintiff's claims.
- Helped achieve exclusion of damages and liability experts, denial of class certification, and award of summary judgment in multidistrict consumer fraud class action.
- Represented supermarket chain in MDL in New York federal court involving allegations of mislabeled over-the-counter drugs, which the district court dismissed on federal preemption grounds.
- Successfully moved to compel individual arbitration of consumer claims in a variety of forums.
- Served on team that successfully vacated unfavorable class arbitration award in federal court.
- Second-chaired consumer fraud arbitration proceeding, securing a complete defense award.

FALSE CLAIMS ACT LITIGATION

- Won summary judgment for a national healthcare provider named in False Claims Act suit brought by a former employee alleging a novel theory of liability under the federal False Claims Act and the state False Claims Acts of multiple different states.
- Assisted in defending company in multi-defendant False Claims Act suit that was dismissed with prejudice at the pleading stage, for which the relator was ordered to pay the defendants' attorney's fees.

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Experience

- Representing private university in False Claims Act suit involving the receipt of Title IV funding.
- Representing managed care organization in False Claims Act suit involving the use of fraud and abuse detection processes in connection with state Medicaid program.

APPELLATE LITIGATION

- Assisted in obtaining affirmance of denial of preliminary injunction relating to the constitutionality of state 340B contract pharmacy law.
- Secured favorable state appellate rulings on an issue of first impression regarding the enforceability of online arbitration provisions.
- Briefed appeal of $500,000 jury verdict in breach of contract dispute, resulting in complete reversal of trial court's judgment.
- Defeated petition for writ of mandamus seeking to avoid court-ordered disclosure of privileged documents.
- Served on an appellate team that obtained affirmance of a summary judgment ruling in a reverse false claims case under the False Claims Act.

Recognition

- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*, Litigation - Antitrust, 2027

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Education

- J.D., Washington University in St. Louis School of Law
  - *cum laude*
  - *Washington University Jurisprudence Review*, Chief Articles Editor
- B.A., Lindenwood University
  - Philosophy
  - *cum laude*

Admissions

- Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit

Clerkships

The Hon. Sarah E. Pitlyk, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri

Community Leadership

Tanner is an active member of the St. Louis Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and currently serves as an officer on the Chapter's Board of Directors.

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2025 Pro Bono Achiever

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