

Aaron P. Knoll *Attorney*



Let's get it done.

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Overview

Aaron Knoll is a business litigator. He represents national and international businesses in a wide range of commercial, consumer, and class-action disputes.

He also advocates for developers in regulatory and litigation matters in the thriving renewable-energy industry. And he conducts internal and agency investigations concerning FCPA and various whistleblower risks.

Mindful that litigation presents both challenges and opportunities, Aaron works together with clients to understand their unique interests, develop reliable solutions to achieve their goals, and pursue strategies and tactics that make practical sense. He then champions clients with high-quality, cost-effective, and personable service.

Aaron earned his J.D., summa cum laude from the University of St. Thomas School of law, and his B.A., with Distinction and magna cum laude from the University of Minnesota. After law school, he clerked for the Honorable Paul A. Magnuson of the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota and the Honorable Christopher J. Dietzen of the Minnesota Supreme Court.

Education

J.D., University of St. Thomas School of Law, *summa cum laude* (2012); Articles Editor, St. Thomas Law Review

B.A., University of Minnesota, History and Geography, *with Distinction, magna cum laude* (2009)

Experience

Faegre Baker Daniels LLP, Associate (2013-2014; 2015-2017)

U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota, Judge Paul A. Magnuson, Law Clerk (2014-2015)

Minnesota Supreme Court, Justice Christopher J. Dietzen, Law Clerk (2012-2013)

Representative Experience

BUSINESS LITIGATION

Aaron has defended companies in complex and high-value commercial, consumer, and class-action litigation in federal and state courts:

- Successfully defended Fortune 500 company against allegations of breach of license agreement, fraud, and anti-competitive conduct
- Successfully defended national creditor against statutory-fraud and business-tort claims and guided the client through system-wide risk-mitigation improvements
- Compelled arbitration on behalf of major retail finance company after a bench trial
- Defended Fortune 500 company in putative nationwide class action involving dental products and alleging breach-of-warranty and consumer-fraud claims
- Obtained favorable settlement for national tile retailer in securities class action
- Compelled arbitration in many putative consumer-protection class actions on behalf of financial institutions and retailers
- Defeated or resolved in amicable settlement several opt-out cases pursuing Telephone Consumer Protection Act claims
- Won summary judgment for regional utilities commission against claims by withdrawn member seeking the commission's assets

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Aaron has represented developers in navigating regulatory issues or litigating commercial disputes specific to the solar- and wind-energy industries.

- Successfully helped several developers of community solar gardens respond to and defeat co-location notices and other objections from Xcel Energy
- Defending solar-garden developer in litigation over post-acquisition contract and fraud claims
- Counseled Fortune 500 company in adapting to changed circumstances impacting renewable energy purchase agreements

INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS

Finally, Aaron has handled anti-corruption and other investigations for businesses faced with whistleblower allegations, regulatory action, and auditor scrutiny:

- Represented filtration company to investigate allegations of accounting irregularities in Belgium
- Represented large industrial client to investigate allegations of FCPA violations in China
- Represented agricultural processor to investigate allegations of unsafe food handling practices
- Represented commercial dairy producer to investigate allegations of FCPA violations in Mexico
- Represented healthcare technology management organization to investigate allegations of FCPA violations in India

Aaron also maintains an active pro bono practice. He has defended a death-row inmate in Alabama state and federal post-conviction proceedings, argued a criminal appeal on Fourth Amendment grounds in Minnesota state court, and led efforts to expunge criminal records for clients across Minnesota.

Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- State of Minnesota

Professional & Community Affiliations

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association (Legal Education Committee, Golf Tournament Committee)
- Minnesota State Bar Association

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- University of St. Thomas School of Law Mentor Program, Mentor (2015-present)
- American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition, Coach (2013-2015)

Thought Leadership

PUBLICATIONS

- Residential- and Commercial-Scale Distributed Wind Energy in North Dakota, USA, Co-Author, *Renewable Energy* (2009)

TEACHING AND LECTURING

Teaching

- University of St. Thomas School of Law, Adjunct Professor (2014-present)

Lecturing

- *Quick-Draw Litigation—Strategies for Winning Injunctions and Other Threshold Motions*, Minnesota CLE (March 2019)
- *It Just Got Personal: Recent Developments in Personal Jurisdiction*, Co-Presenter, Minnesota CLE (May 2018)
- *Two's Company, Three's a Crowd: Privilege and Confidentiality Issues for Lawyers Representing Multiple Parties*, Co-Presenter with Cliff Greene, Minnesota CLE (2017)
- *Significant New Civil Procedure Cases in 2016*, Co-Presenter, Minnesota CLE (2017)
- *Effective and Efficient Written Discovery*, Minnesota CLE (2016)
- *Significant New Civil Procedure Cases in 2015*, Co-Presenter, Minnesota CLE (2016)

Recognition

- University of St. Thomas School of Law Dean's Award for Outstanding Teaching (2019)

- Recognized as Minnesota State Bar Association North Star Lawyer for pro bono service (2016-2017)
- Judge Earl R. Larson Law Student Award, Federal Bar Association (2012)
- Mission Award for Excellence in Professional Preparation, University of St. Thomas School of Law