



Caroline H. Gentry

Caroline practices in the areas of commercial litigation, employment litigation, class action defense (she co-chairs the firm's Class Action Practice Group) and drone law. She represents employers in pre-litigation matters involving recruiting, hiring, training, policies and procedures, internal investigations and discharges.

She currently teaches at Sinclair Community College on the topic of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Standards, Regulations and Law, and is pursuing an associate's degree in Sinclair's UAS program. Caroline is a former law clerk for the Honorable Walter Herbert Rice, United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. She has been recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*[®] in the area of Commercial Litigation and *Ohio Super Lawyers*[®] in the area of Business Litigation. She has served on several non-profit boards, was recognized by Advocates for Basic Legal Equality/Legal Aid of Western Ohio for her pro bono work in the area of voting rights, and is a Fellow of the Dayton Bar Foundation, Ohio State Bar Foundation and American Bar Foundation.

Representative Matters

Representative Trial Matters

- Defended a patent litigator in a multi-million dollar malpractice case in a state court jury trial
- Represented homeless organizations pursuing voting rights claims in a three-week federal court bench trial
- Defended a telecommunications company against unrelated claims in two state court bench trials
- Successfully tried a preliminary injunction action against the state of Ohio in case challenging the termination of Medicaid mental health benefits for nursing home residents

Representative Appellate Decisions

- *Safdi v. Covered Employer's LTD Plan*, 631 Fed. Appx. 304 (6th Cir. 2015)
Upheld insurer's denial of benefits where employee did not satisfy the plan's recurrent disability provision
- *Avis Rent-A-Car Sys. v. City of Dayton*, 581 Fed. Appx. 479 (6th Cir. 2014)

Partner

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SOCIAL MEDIA

Blogs

employerlawreport.com

EDUCATION

Yale Law School, J.D., 1995

Kalamazoo College, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1992

SERVICES

Litigation

- Commercial litigation
- Class actions, mass torts and MDLs
- Intellectual property litigation
- Non-competition and trade secrets litigation
- Product liability
- Appellate and Supreme Court practice
- Financial services litigation

Labor & Employment

- Employment litigation
- Class and collective actions
- Employment law compliance counseling
- Recruiting, hiring and training



Affirmed award of summary judgment to rental car companies after defendant wrongly attempted to terminate lease agreement

- *Durbin v. Columbia Energy Group Pension Plan*, 522 Fed. Appx. 341 (6th Cir. 2013)
Affirmed award of judgment to defendant plan administrator in pension benefits dispute
- *Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless v. Husted*, 696 F.3d 580 (6th Cir. 2012)
Upheld order requiring provisional ballots cast in the wrong precinct to be counted
- *Hunter v. Hamilton Cty. Bd. of Elections*, 635 F.3d 219 (6th Cir. 2011)
Upheld order requiring certain provisional ballots to be counted
- *Ameritech Publishing, Inc. v. Mayfield*, 2011-Ohio-2971, 7th App. District Upheld judgment in favor of plaintiff in breach of contract action
- *Kimmel v. Lowe's, Inc.*, 2011-Ohio-28, 2nd App. District Upheld award of summary judgment to employer on hostile work environment claim
- *Kanally v. Ameritech Ohio Co.*, 2008-Ohio-4446, 8th App. Dist. Reversed denial of summary judgment motion in putative class action

Representative Trial Decisions

- *Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. v. Findlay Indus.*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 179844 (N.D. Ohio Dec. 29, 2016)
Awarded summary judgment to defendants and rejected PBGC's argument that successor liability could be imposed on mere asset purchasers
- *Hunt v. Hartford Life & Acc. Ins. Co.*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 46263 (S.D. Ohio Apr. 3, 2014)
Awarded judgment to insurer in disability benefits dispute
- *Logsdon v. Hartford Life & Acc. Ins. Co.*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 99160 (N.D. Ohio July 16, 2013)
Dismissed putative class action challenging insurer practices
- *Galion Community Hosp. v. Hartford Life & Acc. Ins. Co.*, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 44757 (N.D. Ohio May 7, 2010)
Awarded summary judgment to insurer in action involving stop-loss coverage
- *Wike v. Vertrue, Inc.*, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 52310 (M.D. Tenn. July 3, 2008)
Dismissed claims against defendant in putative class action

Bar Admissions

Ohio

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio

SERVICES (CONTINUED)

Employee Benefits

- ERISA and employee benefits litigation

Intellectual Property

- Advertising, false advertising, unfair competition and product claims
- Enforcement, disputes and litigation

Government & Regulatory Affairs

- Election law representation
- Regulatory drafting and advocacy

Wireless & Telecommunications

Financial Institutions

- Financial services litigation

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International
- Dayton Bar Association
- Dayton Bar Foundation, Fellow
- Ohio State Bar Association
- Ohio Bar Foundation, Fellow
- American Bar Foundation, Fellow



U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio
Supreme Court of the United States

Presentations

- “The Drones are Coming! An Overview of Current Law & Future Trends,” Drones, Cyber-Hacking & PEDs, Oh My! Northeast Ohio Association of Corporate Counsel, Nov. 15, 2018
- “The Drones are Coming! An Overview of Current Law and Future Trends,” Dayton Bar Association, Oct. 24, 2018
- “The Good, the Bad and the ERISA: An Overview of ERISA Claims, Procedures and Best Practices,” Porter Wright Employment Relations Seminar, May 21, 2018
- “Trends: Class Actions, Mass Torts and MDLs,” Porter Wright Annual Ethics & Trends in Litigation Seminar, Dec. 7, 2017
- “The Evolving Law of Commercial Drones: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly,” Nov. 16, 2017
- “Ghostly Glow: The Good, The Bad...and the Unknown,” Porter Wright Employment Relations Seminar, Nov. 1, 2017
- “Do or Do Not – There is No Try: Evolving Gender Protections Under Title VII,” Porter Wright Employment Relations Seminar, June 2, 2017
- “What In-House Counsel Needs to Know About Commercial Drones,” Central Ohio Association of Corporate Counsel, Feb. 9, 2017
- “Defending Class Actions: What You Need to Know Today,” Porter Wright Annual Ethics & Trends in Litigation Seminar, Dec. 3, 2014
- “Class Act: Best Practices for Defending Class Actions,” American Bar Association Committee on Corporate Counsel CLE Seminar, February 2014
- “*Dukes v. Wal-Mart*: What a Difference a Year Makes,” Defense Research Institute Commercial Litigation Seminar, May 2012
- “Strategies You Can Use to Protect Your Company,” Ohio Class Action Summit, Porter Wright, October 2010

Publications

- “Rules of the sky for commercial UAVs,” *The Dayton Bar Briefs*, November 2018
- “Dayton attorney talks new drone rules and what to know,” *Dayton Business Journal*, Sept. 2, 2016
- “The top ten things you need to know when removing a class action,” American Bar Association Class Action and Derivative Suit Committee Newsletter, Spring/Summer 2009

Honors | Awards

- *The Best Lawyers in America*[®], Commercial Litigation
- *Ohio Super Lawyers*[®], Business Litigation
- Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. and Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc., Lloyd O’Hara Public Interest Law Award, 2011
- *Dayton Business Journal*, Forty Under 40 Award



- Phi Beta Kappa

Community

- Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board Member
- The Entrepreneurs Center, Board Member
- Academic Decathlon of Ohio, Board Member and Treasurer
- Leadership Dayton