



Emily Larish Startsman

Title: Member

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Emily Larish Startsman is an attorney in the firm's Lexington office where she is a member of the Torts and Insurance Practice Service Group. Emily has handled a variety of litigation matters for insurance companies, medical providers, corporations, and local businesses. Her focus includes medical malpractice, products liability, bad faith, and a variety of personal injury matters.

CAPABILITIES

Practice Areas

- Litigation & Appeals
- Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Litigation
- Product Liability Litigation

RECENT ASSIGNMENTS

- Represent a major manufacturer of respiratory protection products in serial litigation.
- Successfully defended claims against estate from inception of case through appeal.
- Secured summary judgment for client in state court on governmental immunity ground.
- Obtained summary judgment on middleman defense in products liability action in federal court.
- Defend Kentucky-area hospitals, physicians, and emergency medical services providers in medical malpractice and wrongful death litigation.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Kentucky
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky

RECENT NEWS, ARTICLES & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Automakers Potentially Liable for Stolen Cars
,with [John L. Tate](#) Stites & Harbison Client Alert, September 23, 2025
- Down the Rabbit Hole: Assessing the Reach of Amended Rule 7.1
,with [Daniel E. Danford](#) Stites & Harbison Client Alert, January 20, 2023
- Daubert: Trends and Statistics
IADC Committee Newsletter, Product Liability, November 2017 ,with [Whitney Frazier Watt](#)
- Extreme Sports Challenge the Courts
,with [John L. Tate](#) Product Liability Law & Strategy, August 2015

FIRM LEADERSHIP

- Office of General Counsel, Member

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Bar Association
- Kentucky Bar Association
- Fayette County Bar Association
- Defense Research Institute

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- The Nest - Center for Women, Children and Families, Board of Directors; HR Committee (2016-present)
- Leadership Lexington, Class of 2019-20

EDUCATION

- Vanderbilt University Law School J.D., 2011
- Washington and Lee University B.A., Psychology, *magna cum laude* 2005

MORE THAN STITES & HARBISON

Prior to joining Stites & Harbison, Emily served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Danny C. Reeves, U.S. District Judge, Eastern District of Kentucky. In her free time, Emily enjoys cooking, reading, and spending time with her family.

ACCOLADES

- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Product Liability Litigation - Defendants (2026)
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Ones To Watch, Commercial Litigation; Medical Malpractice Law - Defendants; and Product Liability Litigation - Defendants (2021-22)
- *Kentucky Super Lawyers*®, Rising Star (2019-21)