STITES & HARBISON PLLC



J. Clarke Keller

Title: Senior Member

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Clarke Keller's practice focuses on defending Kentucky-area emergency medical service providers, product liability litigation and transportation law, including aviation, motor carriers and railroads. He helped a start-up commercial enterprise obtain an FAA exemption and Certificate of Authorization to operate an unmanned aerial system (UAS) or drone, for commercial purposes. Additionally, Mr. Keller also maintains a successful mediation practice, having effectively mediated hundreds of cases throughout his career.

CAPABILITIES

Practice Areas

- Environmental Litigation
- Arbitration, Mediation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Aviation
- Business Litigation
- Pretrial Practice & eDiscovery
- Insurance Coverage, Bad Faith & Regulatory Litigation
- Product Liability Litigation
- Litigation & Appeals
- Airport Law

RECENT ASSIGNMENTS

- Was part of the Stites & Harbison trial team that obtained a favorable jury verdict for a major chemical corporation against multiple plaintiffs
- Led team of attorneys defending a national workers' compensation carrier against allegations of claims mishandling in 21 states
- Successfully defended the local airport board in litigation arising from a fatal aircraft accident
- Obtained summary judgment on third-party complaint against client in helicopter accident 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

- Exploring the Alternatives: Courts and Clients Increasingly Look to Mediation and Arbitration in Resolving Disputes
  by Susan Baniak, *Business Lexington*, March 21, 2019
- UAS/Drones: FAA Oversight and Insurance Issues
  Stites & Harbison Thirsty Thursday networking event, Louisville, KY, May 18, 2017
- UAS/Drones and the FAA
  15th Annual Kentucky Environmental Conference, Lexington, KY, March 28, 2017
- The Drone Wars: Environmental Edition
  ,*with Jennifer J. Cave* *The Goods*, Kentucky Association of Manufacturers, November 2016
- How to Prepare to Give Your Deposition
  Kentucky Coalition of Nurse Practitioners/Nurse Midwives
- Top 10 Ways to Sabotage a Mediation
  Fayette County Bar Association, Women Lawyers Group

FIRM LEADERSHIP

- Office of General Counsel

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Bar Association
- Kentucky Bar Association
- Fayette County Bar Association
- Mediation Center of Kentucky,
  - Certified Mediator
- Association of Defense Trial Attorneys
- Transportation Lawyers Association
- Defense Research Institute

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Christ the King Cathedral Parish, Lector, member of St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Notre Dame Club of Central Kentucky, member and past president

EDUCATION

- University of Kentucky College of Law J.D., with high distinction, 1984
- University of Notre Dame B.B.A., with honors, Finance, 1973

MORE THAN STITES & HARBISON

Clarke was an officer and helicopter pilot in the U.S. Air Force from 1974-81 and served as a helicopter pilot in the Kentucky Army National Guard from 1983 to 1990. Mr. Keller recently completed eight years of service on the Board of Trustees for Lexington Catholic High School, two of those years as Chair, and is a member and lector of Christ the King Cathedral Parish. He's also a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and past president of the Notre Dame Club of Central Kentucky.

ACCOLADES

- *Martindale-Hubbell*® AV-Preeminent® Peer Review Rated
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Commercial Litigation and Mediation (2007-27)
- *Kentucky Super Lawyers*® (2007-20, 2022)