STITES & HARBISON PLLC

Neil E. Barton

Title: Member

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Location: Louisville, KY

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Neil Barton focuses his practice on helping insurers and businesses manage risk, resolve disputes, and defend high-exposure claims. He is a trusted advisor to insurance carriers facing complex coverage questions and litigation arising from catastrophic property losses, fires, explosions, and serious injury and wrongful death claims.

Neil routinely provides coverage opinions, litigates declaratory judgment actions, and defends insurers against bad faith allegations. His experience spans a wide range of coverage issues involving homeowners, commercial property, general liability, and excess policies. Clients rely on him to analyze complicated factual investigations, identify coverage defenses, and develop practical litigation strategies that align legal risk with business objectives.

A certified Fire and Explosion Investigator through the National Association of Fire Investigators, Neil brings a rare combination of legal and technical expertise to matters involving fire origin-and-cause investigations, subrogation issues, arson allegations, and large-loss property claims.

Neil also has experience litigating fiduciary disputes and challenges to the settlement and administration of trusts and estates.

CAPABILITIES

Practice Areas

- Business Litigation
- Fire Investigation & Litigation
- Insurance Coverage, Bad Faith & Regulatory Litigation
- Litigation & Appeals

- Product Liability Litigation
- Professional Liability Litigation

RECENT ASSIGNMENTS

- Secured summary judgment on behalf of a nursing home against unsupported claims of neglect and medical negligence.
- Represented a small business owner in the sale of assets during the pandemic.
- Secured summary judgment on behalf of a Louisville dentist in a suit claiming a negligent referral caused injury to the plaintiff.
- Successfully defended against several slip and fall as well as trip and fall cases on behalf of business owners throughout the Commonwealth.
- Secured summary judgment on behalf of an auto dealership in a premises liability action in Jefferson County Circuit Court.
- Acquired dismissal of a complaint filed against a corporate manufacturer of safety equipment.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Kentucky

RECENT NEWS, ARTICLES & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Stites & Harbison, PLLC promotes Neil E. Barton to Member (Partner)
  by staff writer, *The Lane Report*, January 12, 2026
- People on the Move in Louisville: Neil E. Barton
  by editor, *Louisville Business First*, January 5, 2026
- Insurers Need Not Defend Shooting Injury Suit, Judge Rules
  by Hope Patti, *Law360 Insurance Authority*, September 30, 2022 *,with Matthew W. Breetz*
- Warm Lessons from Our Frozen Neighbors: Reviewing the PPACA's Effectiveness through a Comparative Analysis with the Canada Health Act
  55 *U. Louisville L. Rev.* 355 (2017)

FIRM LEADERSHIP

- Office of General Counsel, Ethics Subcommittee, Member
- Recruiting Committee, Louisville Office, Former Member

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Bar Association
- Kentucky Bar Association
- Louisville Bar Association
- National Association of Fire Investigators,
  - Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator

EDUCATION

- University of Louisville Louis D. Brandeis School of Law J.D., *magna cum laude* 2017
- University of Cincinnati Master of Music, 2003
- University of Alberta Bachelor of Music, 2001

MORE THAN STITES & HARBISON

Before attending law school later in life, Neil was a professional musician, playing trumpet with various orchestras and bands in the United States and Canada, and a Store Manager for Starbucks. Besides music, Neil enjoys spending time with his family, being outdoors, and cheering on the Cards. While in law school, Neil completed a judicial internship with Magistrate Judge Colin H. Lindsay, United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky (Fall 2016) and served as Editor in Chief for Volume 55 of the *University of Louisville Law Review*.

ACCOLADES

- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Ones To Watch, Medical Malpractice Law - Defendants; Personal Injury Litigation - Defendants; Product Liability Litigation - Defendants (2023-27)
- *Kentucky Super Lawyers*®, Rising Star (2025-26)