

Patricia Linn Jenness

Partner

Overview

Trish brings a broad focus to her work advocating for clients in federal and state court at all stages of litigation, from early case assessment to trial and appeals.

Her experience as a law clerk for Hon. William E. Callahan, Jr., in the Eastern District of Wisconsin provides both insight and appreciation for the court's procedures and processes, which is a benefit when determining the best next step in a legal strategy. She looks for opportunities to resolve cases early on the merits, but prepares for trial through strategic and cost-effective decisions.

She is valued for her efficient yet creative approach to handling disputes involving trademark and copyright protection, commercial contracts, and challenges to insurance policy coverage. Trish is also a member of the Government Investigations & White Collar Defense practice group, providing strategic guidance with internal investigations and responses to governmental inquiries.

When not practicing law or spending time with her wild, yet charming family, Trish is a member of Michael Best's Pro Bono and Hiring Committees and regularly volunteers for the Meta House in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Experience

Notable cases include:

- In representing an international supplier of feed products, our team moved for early summary judgment on a breach of contract counterclaim alleged against the plaintiff and sought dismissal of the plaintiff's breach of contract claim alleged against our client. Applying Wisconsin's UCC statute, the federal court granted summary judgment and awarded approximately \$12 million in damages to our client.
- Successfully protected intellectual property rights for a leading bathroom products manufacturer by securing immediate removal of copyrighted material being used on websites operated by unlicensed vendors.



pljenness@michaelbest.com

Milwaukee

T. 414.223.2518

Legal Assistant

Karen Brandt

kjbrandt@michaelbest.com

T. 414.225.4937

Practices

Commercial Litigation
Enforcement, Clearance & Defense
Environmental Enforcement
Defense & Litigation
Government Investigations & White
Collar Defense
Litigation

- Strategically moved prior to trial to obtain substantive damages rulings, forcing the defendant to settle and sparing the client the expense and hassle of trial. The federal court's order on the motions established that our client, a company specializing in hazardous waste management, could recover attorneys' fees and damages incurred from the clean-up of an environmental contamination site because the insurer breached its duty to defend the company.
- Quickly obtained dismissal of a trademark infringement case on the basis that the plaintiff, though holding a valid registration at the time of the alleged infringement, did not own a federally registered mark at the time it filed the lawsuit. The dismissal saved the client from expensive litigation and exorbitant settlement demands.

Honors & Recognitions

- Michael Best Litigation Practice Group Pro Bono Award, 2016
- "Rising Stars," Wisconsin Super Lawyers, 2015-present
- Wisconsin 2015 Pro Bono Honor Society

Professional Activities

- Member, Wisconsin Bar Association
- Civil Committee Co-Chair, Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association
- President, Association for Women Lawyers
- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Milwaukee Bar Association
- Member, Thomas E. Fairchild American Inn of Court

Education

- Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Juris Doctor (J.D.), *magna cum laude*; Editor, Case Western Reserve Law Review
- University of Wisconsin-Madison, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.); Legal Studies and Communication Arts

Admissions

- Wisconsin
- United States Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
- United States District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin
- United States District Court, Western District of Wisconsin
- United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Related News

PUBLICATION

June 24, 2019

Evers Administration Takes First Step to Establish Controversial Groundwater Quality Standards for PFAS Substances and Glyphosate in Wisconsin

PUBLICATION

May 24, 2019

Wisconsin Governor Proposes Sweeping PFAS Legislation

PUBLICATION

April 30, 2019

EPA Releases Draft Recommendations for Groundwater Impacted by Two PFAS Compounds

PUBLICATION

March 6, 2019

Supreme Court Says Plaintiffs Must Have Copyright Registrations Before Filing Infringement Actions

NEWS

June 20, 2018

Michael Best Names Five Attorneys to Partnership

EVENT

December 7, 2017

6th Annual Litigation Seminar