



Emma C. Nowacki

Associate

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Emma is a trial lawyer who represents businesses, governmental entities and insurance companies involved in a variety of litigation areas ranging from negligence to whistleblower retaliation.

Emma's employment litigation practice focuses on issues ranging from retaliation to discriminatory practices. She recently helped secure a unanimous defense verdict in a whistleblower action filed against a governmental entity. Through our motion practice, plaintiff was prohibited from testifying and presenting non-economic damages.

She also recently first chaired a jury trial involving an automobile accident and was awarded a unanimous defense verdict. As a former prosecutor in Chicago she tried more than 20 jury trials, and in one of those trials Emma secured a guilty verdict against two defendants in a double jury involving the discharge of a firearm. Emma is also a graduate of the Idaho State Bar's Trial Skills Academy.

What Emma enjoys most about being a lawyer is the time she spends in the courtroom representing her clients. She was trained early in her career to strategize from the very outset of a case as to how to best present the facts for her client at trial or reach a dismissal before trial. As a result, Emma looks for every avenue available to defeat a claim and achieve the best result for her client whether it is through taking effective depositions or filing dispositive motions.

Emma's prior litigation experience includes:

- Working as a **senior associate attorney** at Purcell & Wardrope, CHTD, a Chicago-based litigation firm, where she represented clients in complex civil suits. In this role, Emma won at arbitration on a property damage case where it was alleged that her client negligently installed a washing machine which flooded the home 12 hours after installation. Emma's cross-examination of the plaintiff revealed to the arbitrator that the plaintiff's claim was fraudulent.

- Serving as a **prosecutor in the Cook County (Illinois) State's Attorney's Office**, where she tried more than 20 jury trials and 200 bench trials for both felony and misdemeanor cases in the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence division. Emma also served as prosecutor in the Criminal Appeals Division where she wrote more than 65 appellate briefs and presented four oral arguments before the Illinois Appellate Court, First District, in cases involving murder, home invasion, criminal sexual assault and arson
- Serving as an **extern to the Honorable Virginia M. Kendall** of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois where she reviewed briefs and drafted court orders.
- Serving as a **volunteer attorney for the Lawyer's Committee for Better Housing** where she represented low-income tenants facing wrongful evictions

Emma is admitted to practice in Idaho and Illinois.

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- Defense Research Institute (DRI), Member
- Idaho Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), Member
- Idaho State Bar Employment & Labor section, Member

IRRELEVANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Emma qualified and played in the under 18 Nationals and Junior Olympics in field hockey. Her goal is to bring the sport (which is like ice hockey but played on grass) to Idaho!
- She won an electric guitar signed by all the members of Pearl Jam at a charity event and was convinced she could become a rock star. Although she is a decent violin player, she never quite figured out how to play the guitar. She has not given up on the dream.
- Emma explored many parts of Europe, Africa, Asia and Central America but her favorite destination was Morocco where she rode a camel.

EDUCATION

- University of Michigan, B.A. in English and Spanish Language & Literature
 - Study abroad program in Salamanca, Spain
- DePaul University College of Law, J.D.