



DARA K. WANZER
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McAFEE & TAFT
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BIOGRAPHY

Dara Wanzer's state and federal litigation practice is focused on labor and employment law and general civil litigation, particularly in the areas of energy, construction, healthcare, insurance, products liability defense, and real estate. In addition to representing both plaintiffs and defendants in complex civil litigation matters, she also counsels and represents employers in litigation matters involving all types of wrongful discharge claims, claims related to employment agreements, and other disputes arising from the employer-employee relationship.

As a part of her employment counseling practice, Dara speaks at seminars on a variety of employment-related matters and serves as a contributing author to the *Oklahoma Employment Law Letter*. She has also been interviewed by the local media on the topics of religious discrimination, the legal pitfalls of online social media, and the crafting of social media policies, and has been a featured guest speaker at seminars on the subject of legal issues arising from the use of social media.

Her achievements have earned her inclusion in *Oklahoma Super Lawyers'* list of "Oklahoma Rising Stars" (general litigation, employment and labor), which recognizes the state's top up-and-coming attorneys.

Dara is a 2005 honors graduate from the University of Oklahoma College of Law. Prior to joining McAfee & Taft in 2007, she practiced as a litigation associate with another Oklahoma City-based civil practice law firm in the areas of commercial litigation, hospital liability and medical malpractice.

In addition to her legal practice at the firm, Dara also serves as a volunteer attorney for Oklahoma Lawyers for Children, a nonprofit organization that uses the time, talent and resources of qualified *pro bono* lawyers and others to represent and assist children in the Juvenile Division of the Oklahoma County District Court. She also serves on the board of directors of the Young Lawyers Division of the Oklahoma County Bar Association.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Representation of a seller of over-the-road trucks and trailers against charges of breach of contract, negligence and fraud. Obtained judgment on the pleadings of the plaintiff's negligence and breach of contract claims and was granted a Rule 50 motion for judgment as a matter of law on the fraud claim at the conclusion of plaintiff's case in chief.
- Obtained summary judgment for an Oklahoma electric cooperative in an employment lawsuit alleging wrongful termination.
- Obtained summary judgment for a blood bank in a matter involving claims of gender and age discrimination.

- Obtained summary judgment for a temporary agency in an employment lawsuit alleging race discrimination and retaliation.
- Successfully represented two healthcare facilities on Medicare reimbursement claims.
- Representation of a developer in a construction industry arbitration dispute involving the development of a hotel in Houston, Texas.
- Local representation to one of the nation's leading branded foods companies in mass torts litigation involving more than 70 Oklahoma plaintiffs and one class action.
- Obtained summary judgment in contractual dispute involving a \$10 million stock purchase agreement.
- Obtained summary judgment for a regional hospital in an employment lawsuit alleging age discrimination and retaliatory discharge.
- Obtained dismissal of complaint alleging gender and disability discrimination for local healthcare facility.
- Awarded favorable judgment in arbitration for trust company in a securities matter.
- Obtained summary judgment for hospital network in an employment lawsuit alleging age discrimination.

ADMISSIONS

- Oklahoma, 2006
- U.S. District Court for the Northern and Western Districts of Oklahoma
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court

EDUCATION

- J.D., with distinction, University of Oklahoma, 2005; Managing Editor, *American Indian Law Review*; Royce H. Savage Merit Scholar; Dean's Honor Roll; American Jurisprudence Award in Mass Media Law
- B.B.A., University of Oklahoma, 2001 (Marketing)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Oklahoma County Bar Association (Former Member, Board of Directors, Young Lawyers Division)
- Oklahoma Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

- Individual Artists of Oklahoma (Board of Directors)
- Oklahoma Lawyers for Children (Volunteer)