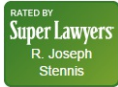




Location

500 West Jefferson Street
Suite 2800
Louisville, KY 40202

Honors



Recognized by his peers as a *Kentucky Super Lawyers®* Rising Star, 2013-2018

Education

2007 - J.D., University of Louisville, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law (Pirtle-Washer Moot Court Competition Winner; *Journal of Law and Education*, 2007)

2001 - M.B.A. (Finance and Entrepreneurship) University of Louisville

1996 - B.S. (Accounting), University of Louisville

Admissions

Kentucky

Wisconsin

United States Western District of Kentucky

United States Eastern District of Kentucky

United States Western District of Wisconsin

R. Joseph Stennis, Jr.

Associate

P 502-562-7254 | F 502-589-0309 | C 502-689-5303

jstennis@wyattfirm.com

R. Joseph "Joe" Stennis is a member of the Firm's Litigation & Dispute Resolution Service Team. Joe's primary focus areas are business and employment litigation matters. Joe represents public and private sector employers in all aspects of employment law, including matters involving wrongful termination, employment based torts, and employment discrimination under Title VII. He routinely represents and counsels clients on employment related matters before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Kentucky Commission on Human Rights, and in federal and state court.

Joe also has handled various commercial litigation matters for his clients including breach of contract, copyright infringement, premises liability defense, and commercial landlord/tenant disputes to name a few.

Prior to his legal career, Mr. Stennis worked in the banking industry as a banking center manager, business development officer, and licensed investment sales agent.

Representative Matters

- Motion for Summary Judgment granted, Jefferson Circuit Court, regarding plaintiff's race discrimination, racially hostile work environment, and retaliation claims.
- Motion for Summary Judgment granted, U.S. Western District of Kentucky, regarding plaintiff's due process, defamation and invasion of privacy claims.
- Motion to Dismiss granted, Knox Circuit Court, regarding plaintiff's wrongful termination and vicarious liability claims (affirmed on Appeal).
- Motion for Summary Judgment granted, Jefferson Circuit Court, regarding plaintiff's failure to promote claims.
- Motion to Dismiss granted regarding plaintiff's age and religious discrimination claims under the Kentucky Civil Rights Act as well as breach of an employment contract allegation.
- Motion to Compel Arbitration granted, which contributed significantly to reaching settlement of plaintiffs' employment discrimination claims.
- Settled FLSA Wage and Hour claim filed in the U.S. Western District of Kentucky prior to certification of class action phase.
- Second chaired quasi-arbitration hearings for local public school district to successful outcome.
- Successfully mediated and/or settled multiple employment litigation disputes.

Professional Experience

- Reinhart, Boerner, Van Deuren, s.c., Milwaukee, WI, Associate
- Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP, Louisville, KY, Associate
- Kentucky Supreme Court, Frankfort, KY, Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable Chief Justice Joseph Lambert
- Fifth Third Bank KY, NA, Louisville, KY, Business Development Officer/Branch Manager/Investment Sales Representative
- Chase Bank KY, NA, Louisville, KY, Branch Manager/Investment Sales Representative

Professional Activities and Memberships

- Kentucky Bar Association
- Wisconsin Bar Association
- Louisville Bar Association, Labor & Employment Section

- Milwaukee Bar Association, Labor & Employment Section
- Louisville Black Lawyer's Association (Past President and Board Member)
- Legal Aid Society (former Board Member)

Presentations and Publications

- SHRM Employee Update, 2018
- Labor and Employment Update, 2016 - 2018
- "Protecting the Attorney-Client Privilege for In-House Counsel," Wyatt In-House Counsel Institute, November 2014
- Blog Article: "6th Circuit Rules an Employer Violated Title VII by Terminating its Transgender Employee," 2018
- Blog Article: "Student Athletes as Employees," 2014
- Blog Article: "Private Employees Can Assert Retaliation," 2014
- Business First Article: "Employers Beware! Top 5 Wage and Hour Pitfalls to Avoid," 2017
- Blog Article: "DOJ Drops Appeal on Obama Overtime Rule," 2017
- PPK Employment Update, 2017

Civic Involvement

- The Metropolitan Housing Coalition, former Board Member
- Ronald McDonald Charities of Kentucky, former Board Member