



Daniel A. Haws, Shareholder

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Dan Haws concentrates his practice in civil and business litigation, product liability, and appellate law. With more than 25 years of legal experience, Dan has successfully tried more than 50 jury trials to verdict throughout the Midwest involving product liability, wrongful death, transportation, and insurance coverage issues. A dedicated attorney and advocate of his clients, Dan has served as lead counsel on more than 50 jury trials. In addition, he has handled hundreds of claims effectively, resolved issues through negotiation and alternative dispute resolution (ADR), and handled more than 30 matters on appeal.

Dan is admitted to practice in all state, federal and appellate courts in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and the United States District Court –District of North Dakota. He frequently serves as lead counsel on jury trials throughout the Midwest representing clients in manufacturing, agriculture, and construction catastrophic loss cases in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, and other venues. A seasoned appellate lawyer, Dan has handled numerous cases on appeal to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, most of which he also served as lead trial counsel.

In recognition of his extensive trial experience, Dan was elected to the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). He has an AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rating in the distinguished legal directory, Martindale-Hubbell®,* has been repeatedly recognized by his peers as a Minnesota "Super Lawyer"®, and The Best Lawyers in America© 2021 - 2022, Product Liability Litigation – Defendants.

Dan has earned a reputation as a tenacious and successful trial lawyer, while drawing on his talents and hands-on experience working with clients and experts. As a business major before attending law school, he understands the entrepreneurial spirit and the challenges of building and growing a business. Born and raised on an Iowa farm, Dan has used many of the products that his clients manufacture. He considers his clients to be partners in the case and values their insights. Dan thoroughly enjoys working with in-house counsel, as well as engineers and other professionals, to achieve his client's desired outcome. He is passionate about his clients and their causes, and provides straightforward, realistic opinions in evaluating their cases. Clients

Minnesota

30 East 7th Street
Suite 3200
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Wisconsin

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North Dakota

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Bismarck, ND 58502-1776
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know that with Dan's extensive trial experience, he will not back down from litigation, but will always take the course most advantageous for his client.

He is a member of the Minnesota, Ramsey County, and Wisconsin State Bar associations, as well as the Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA), Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association (MDLA), the Defense Research Institute (DRI).

Dan received his J.D., *cum laude*, from Hamline University School of Law, where he was a member of the Silver Gavel Honor Society, and completed his undergraduate studies with a B.A. from Central College in Pella, Iowa.

When not representing clients, Dan enjoys spending time with family, coaching his children's sports teams, fishing, golf, and softball.

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Practice Areas

- [Aviation Litigation](#)
- [Commercial Litigation](#)
- [Insurance Related Litigation](#)
- [Financial Services and Business Litigation](#)
- [Product Liability Defense](#)
- [Transportation Litigation](#)

Honors

- America's Top 100 High Stakes Litigators®, 2018-2020
- America's Top 100 Civil Defense Attorneys®, 2018-2020
- America's Top 100 Attorneys Lifetime Achievement, 2017-2020
- AV® Peer Review Rating, *Martindale-Hubbell®**
- *Minnesota Super Lawyers*, 2003-2021
- Top Personal Injury Lawyer – Defense (*Minnesota Law & Politics*)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*© 2021 - 2022
Product Liability Litigation – Defendants, St. Paul, MN

Memberships

- American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)
- Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA)
- Defense Research Institute (DRI)
- Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association (MDLA)
- American Bar Association (ABA)

- Iowa State Bar Association (ISBA)
- Minnesota State Bar Association (MSBA)
- Wisconsin State Bar Association (WSBA)
- Ramsey County Bar Association (RCBA)

Representative Cases

- Engineering & Construction Innovations, Inc. v. Bolduc, Co., Inc., et al, 825 N.W.3d 695 (Minn. 2013)
- Secured summary judgment in a precedent setting wrongful death strangulation case which found that window coverings can be permanent improvements to real property under the statute of repose.
- Served as lead counsel representing a large Iowa ice cream manufacturer in a commercial products case. Secured a jury verdict and settlement amounting to \$37,000,000.
- Served as lead counsel in a federal court case in Iowa representing a large construction equipment manufacturer in a product liability case involving a rollover with catastrophic injuries. Jury found that the bulldozer was not defective in its design and found in favor of the manufacturer.
- Bundul v. Travelers Indem. Co., 753 N.W.2d 761 (Minn. Ct. App. 2008)
- Bach v. Case Corp., 2006 WL 28651 66 (Minn. Ct. App. 2006) Represented major agricultural combine manufacturer in product liability suit where catastrophically brain injured plaintiff alleged the combine was defective in its lighting. Visibility and conspicuity were key issues in the case, along with engineering design and accident reconstruction. On appeal, the defense verdict secured for our client was upheld by the Minnesota Court of Appeals.
- Dan was lead counsel representing a major trucking company in a tragic vehicular accident near Eau Claire, Wisconsin involving a charter bus transporting a local school band, and a semi-tractor trailer. The accident occurred on Interstate 94 in the middle of the night and resulted in 7 deaths and multiple injuries. Numerous lawsuits were filed and litigation involving accident reconstruction, fatigue, visibility, trucking regulations and safety procedures, as well as involvement and interaction with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) was pursued. Dan was also co-counsel in connection with the related criminal vehicular homicide charges brought against the truck driver. The truck driver was acquitted of the criminal charges. Dan handled the presentation of the experts pertaining to the accident, reconstruction and NTSB findings and assertions in the case, which the prosecutor attempted to use to support the cause of the accident as being fatigue.
- Urban v. American Legion, et al., 723 N.W.2d 1 (Minn. 2006)
- Zutz v. Case Corp., 422 F.3d 764 (8th Cir. 2005)
- Walk v. Starkey Machinery, Inc., 180 F.3d 837 (8th Cir. 1999) Represented an industrial equipment manufacturer against the plaintiff's product liability claim which was dismissed based upon primary assumption of risk defense. Upheld in the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

- Katzner v. Kelleher Constr., 545 N.W.2d 378 (Minn. 1996)
- ABC v. Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis., 513 N.W.2d 482 (Minn. Ct. App. 1994) Represented a religious organization against a sexual abuse claim. Statute of limitations defense upheld.
- Amoco Pipeline Co. v. Minnesota Valley Landscaping, Inc., 481 N.W.2d 557 (Minn. 1992)