Dawn M. Canty

Partner and General Counsel

Litigation

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Dawn is the firm's general counsel and a panel member of the American Arbitration Association. Dawn represents clients of all types in complex commercial disputes. She counsels a variety of businesses and high-net-worth individuals facing the prospect of litigation — sometimes by representing them in court, but just as often helping them avoid it. Whether responding to a regulatory enforcement action or defending a contract action, she focuses on minimizing the disruption to her clients' businesses that arise from legal disputes.

Business-centered resolutions

Representing a national client base of banks, insurers, financial services firms, product manufacturers and high net worth individuals, Dawn often helps her clients avoid lawsuits before they are filed. She negotiates settlements and guides clients through mediations and creative dispute resolution processes. When lawsuits do arise, Dawn is a fierce advocate well-versed in the challenges of the legal process. She is especially adept at managing cases with large volumes of documents and electronic information.

Dawn routinely works with financial institutions on litigation that can turn on analysis of financial data, including intercreditor disputes and lender liability claims. She also handles Federal Trade Commission enforcement actions and matters brought by state attorneys general alleging unfair or deceptive trade practices in marketing and advertising. In all these actions, her comfort working with complicated factual records benefits her clients.

Recognitions

Recognized or listed in the following:

- *Best Lawyers in America*
  - Commercial Litigation, 2027
  - Women of Influence, 2017
- *Super Lawyers*

Practices

- Artificial Intelligence
- Class Action Litigation
- Commercial Litigation
- Consumer Finance Litigation and Regulatory Compliance
- Electronic Discovery and Information Governance
- Fiduciary and Private Client Litigation
- Financial Markets Litigation and Enforcement
- Insurance and Healthcare Fraud Litigation
- Litigation
- Real Estate Litigation
- Securities Litigation

Industries

- Education
- Finance and Financial Markets
- Insurance and Risk Management
- Private Client Services

Education

- JD, University of Michigan Law School
- AB, The University of Chicago

Bar Admissions

- Illinois

Court Admissions

- US District Court, Northern District of Illinois, Trial Bar
- US Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit

- Illinois, 2010–2018, 2021-2022, 2026

News

- Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2027 *Best Lawyers* Guide (August 20, 2026)
- Katten Attorneys Named to 2026 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 21, 2026)
- Katten Attorneys Named to 2022 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 28, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Chosen for 2021 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 29, 2021)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2018 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 25, 2018)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2017 Illinois *Super Lawyers*, Rising Stars Lists (January 13, 2017)
- Forty-Seven Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2016 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 8, 2016)
- Fifty-Three Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2015 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 12, 2015)
- Fifty-Four Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2014 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 13, 2014)
- Sixty-Nine Katten Attorneys Included on 2013 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 4, 2013)
- Eighty-Six Katten Attorneys Named 2012 Illinois Super Lawyers (February 28, 2012)
- Katten Attorneys Get Class Action Lawsuit Against Zango Dismissed, With Prejudice (September 7, 2006)

Publications

- *Health Care Perspectives* (April 2017)
- *The Business Litigator* - The End of Deepening Insolvency Claims (April 2009)
- *The Business Litigator* - Loan Agreements in Illinois: Oral Modifications Are Unenforceable (February 2009)

Professional & Community Involvement

- American Bar Association, former Illinois State Liaison; former chair, Membership Subcommittee, Class Action and Derivative Suit Committee
- Trial Bar of the Northern District of Illinois
- American Arbitration Association, Panel Member

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Presentations and Events

- Social Media: An Interactive Workshop on How to Incorporate Social Media into Your Marketing Plan (October 25, 2016) | *Presenter*
- Tackling the Tough Issues in Health Care Law and Compliance (July 21, 2016) | *Presenter*
- PowWOW 2016 Enterprise Solutions Conference (May 17, 2016) | *Co-Presenter* | *E Discovery and Considerations for Boards of Directors*
- Protecting Personal Identifiable Information in the Discovery Process (May 12, 2016) | *Presenter*
- Women in the Legal Profession Summit: Rainmaking, Negotiating, and Collaborative Development (April 16, 2008) | *Speaker*