



Marjorie A. Farris

Title: Chair

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Location: Louisville, KY

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Marjorie A. Farris currently serves as Chair of Stites & Harbison. She has practiced with the firm since graduating law school in 1995, and became a member of the firm in 2003. Ms. Farris is an experienced trial lawyer who has handled a wide variety of litigation ranging from products liability, insurance bad faith, ERISA, complex business litigation, and class actions. She has actively defended more than 75 class actions nationwide.

CAPABILITIES

Practice Areas

- Administrative Law
- Appellate Advocacy
- Arbitration, Mediation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Business Litigation
- Class Action, Mass Action & Multi-District Litigation
- Employee Benefits
- Environmental Litigation
- Financial Services Litigation
- Insurance Coverage, Bad Faith & Regulatory Litigation
- Litigation & Appeals
- Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Litigation
- Pretrial Practice & eDiscovery
- Privacy & Data Security
- Product Liability Litigation
- Professional Liability Litigation

RECENT ASSIGNMENTS

- Successfully obtained summary judgment for a healthcare provider in Jefferson Circuit Court in a putative class action asserting claims for negligence, negligence per se, and invasion of privacy stemming from an alleged data breach disclosing patient information. Judgment was obtained prior to any class being certified.
- Obtained summary judgment for defendant in putative class action asserting multiple claims arising from alleged data breach.
- Primary drafter of brief and participated in oral argument in defeating motion for nationwide class certification in Washington state.
- Successfully defended a complex business litigation case involving dispute over sale of a business seeking millions of dollars in compensatory and punitive damages.
- Successfully defended breach of contract claim and pursued counterclaim for contract damages in dispute between two business entities for component parts.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Admitted Pro Hac Vice in Several Jurisdictions
 - Kentucky
 - U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit
 - U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky
 - U.S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky

RECENT NEWS, ARTICLES & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- US Chamber Urges 6th Circ. To Ax FirstEnergy Class Cert.
By Katryna Perera, *Law360.com*, February 20, 2024
- Stites & Harbison Chair Marjorie Farris 1 of 6 to earn national managing partner honors
By Shea Van Hoy, *Louisville Business First*, September 12, 2023
- The Bourbon Boom Keeps Kentucky Lawyers Busy
By Matthew Moore, *The Lane Report*, February 8, 2023
- Economic Outlook 2023: Legal
by staff writer, *The Lane Report*, January 5, 2023
- Louisville legal firms help businesses grow
By Debra Gibson Isaacs, *The Lane Report*, June 28, 2022
- 2022 Enterprising Women: Marjorie Farris
Louisville Business First, April 13, 2022
- ANNOUNCING: 2022 Business Women First Enterprising Women Awards honorees
by Allison Stines, *Louisville Business First*, February 24, 2022
- Legal: Kentucky's Rising Business Tide Lifts Legal Services Industry
The Lane Report, January 4, 2022
- Matthew Barzun Interview *Stites & Harbison, PLLC* October 2021
- Business of Law: Inside the rise of women leaders at Louisville's top law firms
by Steve Kaufman, *Louisville Business First*, August 13, 2021
- Legal services: Smooth, smart pandemic pivot in Louisville law firms
by Lorie Hailey, *The Lane Report*, June 29, 2021
- Top Women in Business Spotlight: Marjorie Farris By Lorie Hailey, *The Lane Report*, October 10, 2021
- Marjorie Farris to Be First Woman to Lead Stites & Harbison Law Firm
The Lane Report, November 5, 2020
- Marjorie Farris to Be First Woman to Lead Stites & Harbison Law Firm
Franklin's.com, November 2, 2020

- Stites & Harbison names its first female chairperson
Louisville Business First, November 2, 2020
- Groundhog Day? Supreme Court Strikes Down Class Arbitration Efforts...Again *with Chadwick A. McTighe and Sarah Cronan Spurlock* Stites & Harbison Client Alert, April 30, 2019
- Kentucky section in the ABA's publication *Survey of State Class Action Law* (included in *Newberg on Class Actions*)
Author, 1999-present
- Class Action Defense Primer
co-author and presenter, Kentucky Defense Counsel, Inc., 2012 Spring Semester, May 11, 2012

FIRM LEADERSHIP

- Chair of the Firm (2021-present)
- Class Action and Multi-District Litigation Group, Co-Chair
- Management Committee (2008-11) (2016-20)
- Recruiting Committee, Co-Chair (2005-07); Management Member of Recruiting Committee (2016-20)
- Office Executive Member - Louisville (2013-16)

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Bar Association
- Kentucky Bar Association
- Louisville Bar Association
- Defense Research Institute
- Leadership Louisville , Class of 2015
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity , Member

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Legal Aid Society, Justice for All Campaign, Chair (2022)
- Leadership Louisville, Finance Committee (2020-present)
- Leadership Louisville Center, Board of Directors (2014-20)
- Center for Women & Families, Board of Directors, Chair (2013-14) and Board Member (2007-15)
- Leadership Louisville, Class of 2015
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Kentuckiana, Board of Directors (2005-13)

EDUCATION

University of Louisville Louis D. Brandeis School of Law J.D. *cum laude* 1995

- Notes Editor of *Law Review*

- Best Oralist Awards in 1994, National Environmental Moot Court Competition

University of Kentucky B.A., History with high distinction Minor in Communications 1992

- Phi Beta Kappa

- Mortar Board

MORE THAN STITES & HARBISON

Marjorie is a member of the Finance Committee (2020-present) and former member of the Board of Directors for Leadership Louisville Center (2014-20). She is a past Chair (2013-14) of the Board of Directors for the Center for Women & Families and coordinated the firm's Volunteer Lawyer Program from 2003-2008. She is a former member of the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Kentuckiana. Marjorie enjoys travel, reading, attending college sporting events and spending time with family and friends, especially her two nephews.

ACCOLADES

- *Martindale-Hubbell*® AV-Preeminent® Peer Review Rated
- *Martindale-Hubbell*® Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers
- *Best Lawyers In America*®, Commercial Litigation and Mass Tort/Class Actions - Defendants (2012-24)
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Louisville Area Lawyer of the Year in Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions - Defendants (2021)
- *Kentucky Super Lawyers*® (2010-18, 2020-24)
- *Business First of Louisville*, Business Women First Enterprising Women Awards, Honoree (2022)
- *Business First of Louisville*, Forty Under 40 (2008)
- *Louisville Magazine* Top Lawyers (2014, 2016)
- Corporate Counsel, 2023 Women, Influence & Power in Law Award – Managing Partner of the Year (2023)

TESTIMONIALS

" Marjorie is an excellent litigator, and I would highly recommend her. "

- *Best Lawyers, client comment*

". . . very strong advocate for our company whether in court, deposition, or in negotiating settlements. "

- *Best Lawyers, client comment*