



HELLMUTH
&
JOHNSON

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OVERVIEW

Jeff Abrahamson is an experienced litigator and trial attorney who combines his nearly 20 years of legal work with his personal experience in the construction industry and growing up on a family farm in central Minnesota to serve his clients. Jeff has a wide ranging and diverse practice representing clients in all aspects of litigation in the transportation, construction, business and commercial, real estate, landlord/tenant, personal injury, insurance, products liability and class action areas during his career.

Growing up on a farm in central Minnesota, Jeff is no stranger to hard work, and he brings that work ethic to the representation of his clients. With his wide range of experience, Jeff has achieved defense jury verdicts, summary judgments, dismissals, and other favorable results for his clients in the state and federal courts of Minnesota, the state and Federal courts of Wisconsin, and other jurisdictions where he has been admitted *pro hac vice*. Jeff has also successfully represented his clients in appeals before the Minnesota Court of Appeals and Minnesota Supreme Court.

In his transportation practice, Jeff has extensive knowledge and experience defending Class I Railroads against claims arising under the Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA), including personal injury and employment claims. Jeff also has significant experience representing trucking and other common carrier clients in regard to both litigation and regulatory issues. Jeff uses a hands-on approach to get to know his transportation clients, to understand their business, and to apply his in-depth knowledge to provide effective representation and excellent results. Jeff's transportation clients rely on his knowledge and hard work to handle complex and complicated matters, and to develop creative solutions that drive the litigation to a successful conclusion.

In his construction practice, Jeff brings his prior experience swinging hammers and as a general contractor to the analysis and understanding of his clients' issues and needs. Having worked on, and operated, numerous construction projects, Jeff's knowledge and experience provide his clients with a distinct and unique advantage in understanding, litigating and resolving construction defect, personal injury, and property damage claims.

Jeff also represents a wide variety of clients in real estate disputes related to boundary lines, easements, and lake shore property, and in regard to both

PRACTICE AREA

Agriculture
Business & Corporate
Business Litigation
Construction & Lien Law
Homeowner Associations
Insurance Coverage
Real Estate
Real Estate Litigation

ADMISSIONS

Minnesota State Courts
Minnesota Federal District Court
Wisconsin State Courts
Wisconsin Federal District Court

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota Law School, cum laude, J.D., 2004
University of Minnesota Duluth, summa cum laude, Double B.A., 2001

commercial and residential landlord/tenant disputes related to breach of contract and destruction of property issues.

Jeff grew on a farm in central Minnesota and spent his early years working in the fields, repairing machinery, and building things around the farm. During his college years, Jeff worked in the construction industry and spent a year general contracting before going to law school. Jeff combines these personal experiences with his legal expertise to understand and evaluate his clients' businesses, and their legal issues and needs, in virtually every aspect of his practice – "The more I know about my clients and their business, the better I can advise them and represent them regardless of the legal issue that they are dealing with."

EXPERIENCE

- *Dack v. BNSF Railroad Company*, Court File No. 27-CV-21-8379, Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County (Obtained favorable settlement for nationwide transportation client in multi-million dollar personal injury matter).
- *Reinke v. Farrier*, Court File No., 27-CV-18-18830, Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County (Obtained favorable settlement for client and insurer in multi-million dollar ATV accident and alleged brain injury matter).
- *Hemling v. Soo Line R.R. Co. and Cedar Creek, LLC*, Court File No. 19-CV-894- (W.D. Wis., April 2021) (Obtained favorable settlement for nationwide lumber company in multi-million dollar wrongful death matter).
- *Thulin v. River Bluff Outdoor Services, et al.*, Court File No. 10-CV-19-1081, First Judicial District, Carver County (Obtained Summary Judgment for outdoor services client in construction defect matter, 2020).
- *Harsh v. Soo Line Railroad Co. and BNSF Railway Co.*, Court File No. 27-CV-17-17475, Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County (Obtained Voluntary Dismissal with Prejudice for nationwide transportation client, 2020).
- *Larson v. BNSF Railway Co.*, Court File No. 27- CV-17-17439, Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County (Obtained defense jury verdict for nationwide transportation client, 2019).
- *Mack v. Thooft Enterprises, LLC, dba Regnier Electric, Heating & Cooling and Dibble Electric, LLC*, Court File No. 42-CV-17-649, Fifth Judicial District, Lyon County (Obtained favorable settlement for electrical contractor client in carbon monoxide wrongful death matter, Sept. 2018).
- *Truck Crane Service, Co. v. Landwehr Construction, Inc.*, Court File No. 19HA-CV-15-1929, First Judicial District, Dakota County (Obtained favorable settlement for construction client in construction accident matter after proving plaintiff spoliated vital evidence, Sept. 2017).
- *Kinworthy v. Soo Line Railroad Company*, 860 N.W.2d 355 (Minn. 2015) (Established the law regarding the application of post-verdict/prejudgment interest in Federal Employers Liability Act (FELA) actions brought in Minnesota state courts).
- *Carlberg v. Soo Line Railroad Co.*, Court File No. 27-CV-13-15523, Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County (Obtained favorable settlement on eve of jury verdict for North American transportation client, 2014).
- *Tompt v. BNSF Railway Co.*, Court File No. 27- CV-2012-020252, Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County, Minnesota (Defense jury verdict for nationwide transportation client, 2014).
- *Kinworthy v. Soo Line Railroad Company*, 841 N.W.2d 363 (Minn. Ct. App. 2013) (Favorable jury verdict affirmed by Court of Appeals).

- *Kinworthy v. Soo Line Railroad Company*, Court File No. 27-CV-09-16075, Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County, Minnesota (Obtained favorable jury verdict for North American transportation client, 2012).
- *Buganski v. Soo Line Railroad Company, Inc.*, No. A11-41, 2011 WL 3654471 (Minn. Ct. App. Aug. 22, 2011), rev. denied Nov. 15, 2011 (Summary Judgment affirmed by Court of Appeals).

AFFILIATIONS:

- Member, National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel (NARTC)
- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Minnesota State Bar Association
- Member, Hennepin County Bar Association
- Member, Ramsey County Bar Association
- Member, Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association

COMMUNITY:

- Presenter, Collisions at the Crossroads – What Every Personal Injury Attorney Needs to Know About Accidents Involving Trains (Minnesota CLE Conference Center, January 17, 2023)
- St. John Lutheran Church – President
- Grandma's Marathon Volunteer
- St. Joseph Workers Program Volunteer