# Unfair Competition Counseling & Litigation

We understand that unfair competition challenges the very core of a company's business by putting at risk a company's customer relationships and competitively sensitive information. Given current trends of high employee turnover and mobility, it is important for companies to have well-drafted, enforceable restrictive covenants, and counsel who can aggressively and effectively enforce them through litigation. Our attorneys advise clients, across industries, on how to avoid unfair competition lawsuits in the first place and, when necessary, litigate in federal and state court to protect their interests and their business. Our extensive experience in this area of the law allows us to add value and insights that help our clients maximize the protection available to them.

Our attorneys have broad experience in all aspects of unfair competition counseling and litigation, including:

- Drafting restrictive covenants non-competes, non-solicitation clauses, and non-disclosure clauses tailored to our clients' particular needs and industries, to give employers the best chance of enforcing the agreements should they be litigated.
- Filing emergency injunction litigation when there is a need to take quick and effective action to shut down ongoing or threatened customer solicitation, information disclosures, or other conduct that could seriously harm our clients' interests.
- Counseling clients who are considering hiring an employee who is subject to a restrictive covenant with a current or former employer, so as to minimize the risk that they could be sued for inducing a breach of the restrictive covenant or unwittingly being party to disclosures of protected information.
- Helping employers protect their interests when they do not have restrictive covenants in place, by using trade secret doctrines, common law legal duties, consumer fraud statutes, and other creative theories.
- Counseling clients as to how they can manage and administer their businesses and information so as to increase the likelihood that their confidential and trade secret information will be protected.
- Advising multi-state employers as to the law of different states that applies to restrictive covenant and unfair competition issues.
- Providing counseling regarding complex restrictive covenant issues such as rolling out restrictive covenants for an existing workforce, or determining whether and how to compensate employees for restrictive covenants where consideration is required.

#### PROFESSIONALS

Beverly P. Alfon Partner

Heather A. Bailey Partner

Marissa R. Borschke Associate

Jeffrey M. Glass Partner

Kelly Haab-Tallitsch Partner

Peter E. Hansen Partner

John R. Hayes Partner

Michael F. Hughes Partner

Craig A. Kubiak Partner

Debra A. Mastrian Partner

Laurie E. Meyer Partner

Jennifer A. Murphy Partner

Julie A. Proscia Partner

Jeffrey A. Risch Partner

Timm W. Schowalter Partner

Sara Zorich Partner



- Advising clients regarding unfair competition in non-employee settings such as the sale or purchase of a business.
- Working with members of our intellectual property team to incorporate the appropriate protections for patents, trademarks, and copyrights and litigating other intellectual property theories which can arise in unfair competition cases.

#### Experience

Defended an Industrial Chemicals Manufacturer and Sales Representative in a Suit Brought by a Former Employer

Secured Judgment for a Regional Banking Client Accused of Terminating an Employee After She Applied for and Took VESSA Leave

Obtained a Summary Judgment Dismissal in Favor of High Profile Clients Accused of Tortiously Causing a New Business to Suffer \$25M in Alleged "Lost Profits" and an Additional \$75M in Other Damages

#### Firm News

Laurie Meyer Included in *Wisconsin Law Journal*'s Power 30 Employment Lawyers List

Firm News, Wisconsin Law Journal, June 28, 2024

Amundsen Davis Promotes Three Attorneys to Partner Firm News, February 21, 2023

Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included in the 2023 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars List Firm News, *Amundsen Davis*, January 23, 2023

41 Amundsen Davis Attorneys Recognized by *Best Lawyers in America*© 2023 Firm News, August 18, 2022

Heather Bailey Recognized as a Top Author of 2021 by JD Supra for Employer Liability Issues Firm News, *Automatic Merchandiser*, June 20, 2022

Amundsen Davis Promotes Five Attorneys to Partner Firm News, March 14, 2022

Amundsen Davis Welcomes Labor & Employment Attorney Timm W. Schowalter as Partner in St. Louis December 27, 2021

Attorney John Hayes Joins Amundsen Davis's Labor & Employment Group March 18, 2020



Amundsen Davis Promotes Three to Partner February 24, 2020

Attorney Peter Hansen Joins Amundsen Davis's Labor & Employment Group February 24, 2020

Amundsen Davis Ranks on Crain's Chicago Business' 2018 Largest Law Firms List *Crain's Chicago Business*, October 25, 2018

Julie Proscia Appointed to Serve on Illinois Senate Task Force on Sexual Discrimination and Harassment Awareness & Prevention November 17, 2017

Amundsen Davis Ranks on Crain's Chicago Business' Largest Law Firms List *Crain's Chicago Business*, September 15, 2017

Heather Bailey and her Team Raise Nearly \$16,000 for the 2017 Chicago Polar Plunge Benefitting the Special Olympics Chicago *Chicago Tribune; Chicago Sun Times*, March 5, 2017

Amundsen Davis Sponsors Institute for Law and the Workplace Scholarship for Chicago-Kent College of Law Students October 2016

Amundsen Davis Ranks on Crain's Chicago Business' Chicago Largest Law Firms List Firm News, *Crain's Chicago Business*, September 10, 2016

Seven Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included in Best Lawyers in America© 2017 August 15, 2016

#### In the Media

How Employment Regulation Might Shift Under the Biden Administration, and What Businesses and Workers Need to Know -- *Business Insider* Interviews and Quotes Beverly Alfon Media Mention, *Business Insider*, January 21, 2021

#### Alerts

COVID-19 Employer Updates – Where Do We Stand Now? Article, *Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert*, February 10, 2022

OSHA's COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate is Dead, Now What? Article, *Amundsen Davis COVID-19 Alert*, January 25, 2022

Federal Contractors' Alert: Your Vaccine Mandate Has Been Halted....Again Article, *Amundsen Davis COVID-19 Alert*, January 24, 2022



OSHA ETS: What Health Care Providers Need to Know *Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert*, June 18, 2021

STIMULUS 2.0: The Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021 – Key Provisions for Employers *Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert*, December 22, 2020

CDC Now Provides Two Options for Shortened Quarantine Time *Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert*, December 3, 2020

Employees Entitled to Leave Because Camp is Closed? Yes. Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert, July 2, 2020

<u>ATTENTION Paycheck Protection Program Loan Recipients</u>: REVISED Forgiveness Application Issued *Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert*, June 23, 2020

Key Takeaways for PPP Borrowers: The Forgiveness Application is Finally Out!! *Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert*, May 18, 2020

Why You Need to Pay Attention to How the Feds Are Approaching the Meat and Poultry Processing Industry *Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert*, April 28, 2020

Missouri Mandates Social Distancing and St. Louis County and City Order "Stay At Home" *Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert*, March 23, 2020

Legislative Tax Relief for Employers and Their Employees Affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic *Amundsen Davis Tax Alert*, March 22, 2020

Families First Coronavirus Response Act: What It Means For Employers *Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert*, March 15, 2020

Protests Planned for March 8 Not Reason to Deviate from Normal Attendance Policies *Amundsen Davis Labor and Employment Alert*, March 3, 2017

Urgent Alert: U.S. DOL Publishes Final Overtime Rule Amundsen Davis Labor & Employment Alert, May 18, 2016

#### Events

Amundsen Davis's Leadership & Management 2024 Certification Training Series Event, Webcast, September - November 2024



Employee Benefits in 2024 — Innovative Trends Shaping Our Future Speaking Engagement, Brown & Brown, Seminar; Oak Brook, IL, February 28, 2024

2024 Labor & Employment Law Update Speaking Engagement, Illinois Lumber & Material Dealers Association, ILMDA Expo; Bloomington, IL, February 15, 2024

2024 State and Federal Employment Law Update Speaking Engagement, Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Seminar; Springfield, IL, February 13, 2024

10th Annual New Laws Forum Speaking Engagement, Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Seminar, Lisle, IL, December 5, 2023

Amundsen Davis's Ninth Annual Labor & Employment Fall Seminar Event, Livestream, September 13, 2023

Addressing Mental Health Issues in the Workplace Event, Amundsen Davis Webcast, August 8, 2023

Illinois, Wisconsin, and Federal Employment Law Update Speaking Engagement, Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, April 27, 2023

Eighth Annual Labor & Employment Fall Seminar Event, Amundsen Davis, Live-stream, September 21, 2022

L&E Legal Updates + Business Succession Planning Independent Pharmacy Cooperative Conference 2022, Seminar; San Diego, CA, April 14, 2022

How to be the Employer Everyone Wants to Work for in 2022: Recruitment, Retention and More Event, Amundsen Davis's Complimentary Indiana Labor & Employment Conference; Indianapolis, IN, March 3, 2022

COVID-19 Testing: What Employers Need to Know Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, January 10, 2022

New Illinois Non-Compete Legislation: What You Need to Know Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, December 16, 2021

The Very Latest on Vaccine Mandates for the Illinois Employer: Focusing on the Manufacturing Industry Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, December 8, 2021

Eighth Annual New Laws Forum 2021 Speaking Engagement, Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Lisle, IL; Webcast, December 1, 2021



OSHA's Vaccine Mandate: What Does It Really Mean For Private Employers? Valley Industrial Association; Webcast, November 17, 2021

Vaccine Mandates- Their Impact on Your Business and What to Expect 2021 NAMA Fly-In NE VOICE Advocacy Summit, Seminar; Washington, DC, November 16, 2021

Responding to EEOC & IDHR Charges of Discrimination Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, November 16, 2021

New COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates & Related Developments The Horton Group; Webcast, November 16, 2021

Rules, Tools, and Q&A - COVID Vaccine & Testing Mandate for the Workplace Connor & Gallagher OneSource; Webcast, November 11, 2021

COVID-19 Lawsuits: What Businesses Can Do to Diminish Risks & Avoid Liabilities Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, November 2, 2021

Biden Vaccine Mandates: What Employers Need to Know Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, October 28, 2021

Seventh Annual Labor & Employment Fall Seminar Event, Amundsen Davis, Seminar; Oak Brook, IL, September 29, 2021

New COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates & Related Developments The Horton Group; Webcast, September 17, 2021

Illinois/Missouri: Big Changes in 2020 & 2021 and What's Shaping Up for 2021 Illinois Chamber of Commerce; St. Louis, MO, September 16, 2021

NEW Illinois Law Changes Coming: New Equal Pay & Related Reporting Mandates Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, September 16, 2021

Illinois/Indiana: Big Changes in 2020 & 2021 and What's Shaping Up in 2021 Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, September 14, 2021

Overview to Stay Compliant Within Employment Laws Lorman, Webcast, September 1, 2021

Recruiting & Retaining Employees in 2021 Illinois Manufacturers' Association, Webcast, August 31, 2021

Illinois/Wisconsin: Big Changes in 2020 & 2021 and What's Shaping Up in 2021 Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, August 25, 2021

New HR Forms for 2021-2022: What Every HR Manager Must Know! Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, August 19, 2021



NAMA Show - Diverse and Inclusive Workplaces: How to Effectuate a Culture That Benefits Everyone, Including the Employer New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center; New Orleans, Louisiana,

August 18, 2021

NAMA Show - An Interactive Legal Workshop on Liability and HR Issues Facing Employers Today New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center; New Orleans, Louisiana, August 17, 2021

Recruiting & Retaining Employees in 2021: Being Creative while Avoiding Legal Pitfalls Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, August 10, 2021

New Pay Data Reporting Obligations & Criminal Conviction Restrictions Impacting Illinois Employers Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Seminar; Naperville, IL, June 3, 2021

The Biden Administration: What Businesses Need to Know Clear Law Institute, Webcast, May 19, 2021

What You Need to Know as You Transition Your Team Back to the Office AssuredPartners, Webcast, May 12, 2021

Negotiate, Persuade, and Close the Candidate Lorman Education Services; Webcast, May 5, 2021

NEW Illinois LEGAL MANDATES for Employers: Prohibition re Criminal Convictions & Equal Pay Certification Obligations Connor & Gallagher OneSource, Webcast, April 29, 2021

NEW Illinois Law Prohibiting Use of Criminal Convictions: An Employer's Guide Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, April 29, 2021

Model Employee Policies Handbook Update - What's Changed for Illinois Employers? Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Seminar; Naperville, IL, April 21, 2021

2021 Educational Series: "2021 Labor & Employment Laws Updates Impacting Trucking Employers" Mid-West Truckers Association, Inc., Webcast, April 12, 2021

American Rescue Plan: What Employers Must Know Now Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, March 23, 2021

Gearing up for President Biden's Emergency COVID-19 Workplace Rules Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, March 23, 2021



Major Labor & Employment Changes Today and Tomorrow under the Biden Administration Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, March 17, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccine in the Workplace Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, March 10, 2021

To Mandate Vaccines or Not: What Employers Need to Understand Illinois Landscape Contactors Association, Webcast, March 3, 2021

To Mandate Vaccines or Not: What Employers Need to Understand Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, March 2, 2021

Labor Law Hot Topics and COVID-19 – What It Means for Employers Illinois Lumber and Material Dealers Association; Webcast, February 25, 2021

Terminating the Problem Employee Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, February 23, 2021

A New Era of Workplace Regulation on Illinois Employers Illinois Manufacturers' Association, Webcast, February 16, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccinations and Employer Responsibilities Illinois Association Chamber of Commerce Executives, Webcast, February 11, 2021

The Legal Implications of Managing a Remote Workforce AssuredPartners, Webcast, February 10, 2021

Berwyn Development Corporation Seminar on COVID-19 Vaccination and Required Testing Berwyn Development Corporation, Webcast, February 2, 2021

Drafting and Litigating Restrictive Employment Covenants Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Webcast, January 28, 2021

How to Use Injunctive Relief to Benefit Your Clients Lorman Education Services, Webcast, January 27, 2021

COVID Safety & Health Concerns in the Workplace Employee Benefits Association of Northern Illinois, Webcast, January 27, 2021

Mandatory Vaccines and Other Options for Employers During this Year's Cold & Flu Season Rockford Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, January 13, 2021

How Employees Can Better Manage this Year's Cold & Flu Season Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, December 4, 2020



Election 2020 and the Merit Shop: How Should Merit Shop Contractors Prepare for Upcoming DOL Policy and Regulatory Actions? Associated Builders and Contractors' Legal and Policy Forecast Conference; Webcast, December 3, 2020

7th Annual New Laws Virtual Forum for Illinois Employers Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, December 2, 2020

To Mandate Vaccines or Not: What Employees Need to Understand Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, November 18, 2020

Reasonable Suspicion Training for Managers Waubonsee Community College, Webcast, November 11, 2020

Impact of the 2020 Election on the Workplace Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, November 10, 2020

Business Owner's Guide to Preventing Gender Bias in the Workplace Lorman Education Services, Webcast, November 3, 2020

BIPA: The Ongoing Threat of Employee Class Actions and Recent Developments Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, October 29, 2020

Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance: Separating Fact from Fiction Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, October 28, 2020

Sexual Harassment and Discrimination in the Workplace for Employers – *Are You Prepared Both Proactively & Reactively for the Illinois Workplace Transparency Act?* Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, October 22, 2020

The Illinois Prevailing Wage Certified Transcript of Payroll Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, October 21, 2020

Illinois Mandatory Anti-Sexual Harassment Prevention Training Chicago Healthcare Risk Management Society, Webcast, October 15, 2020

Illinois Minimum Wage & Overtime During these Unprecedented Times Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, October 13, 2020

Train the Trainer: Anti Sexual Harassment Training Mandatory in Illinois Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, October 8, 2020

Trends & Technical Issues Impacting Employment Based Immigration in Light of COVID-19 and the Election Year Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, October 6, 2020

Illinois Mandatory Anti-Sexual Harassment Prevention Training Chicago Healthcare Risk Management Society, Webcast, September 24, 2020



The 7 Deadly Sins of Documenting Discipline Clear Law Institute, Webcast, September 16, 2020

How to Confront and Discipline Employees in the Age of COVID-19 Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, September 15, 2020

Conducting an Internal HR Audit in 2020 and Beyond Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, September 10, 2020

COVID-19 Executive Orders, Back-to-School and Other Concerns Finishing Contractors Association of Illinois, Webcast, September 1, 2020

Illinois Mandatory Anti-Sexual Harassment Training Lorman Education Services, Webcast, August 27, 2020

Race, Religion, and Politics in the Workplace: What Employers Need to Know Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, August 19, 2020

What Employers Need to Know Related to COVID-19 and Childcare Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, August 17, 2020

Re-Opening the Economy: Preparing to Return to the Workplace The Chamber of Manitowoc County; Webcast, May 19, 2020

How Family First Coronavirus Response Act and CARES Impact Your Business Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, April 15, 2020

COVID-19 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: What Money is Available and How Can My Business Get It? Associated Builders and Contractors of Illinois, Webcast, April 9, 2020

COVID-19 and the Remote Workforce: What Employers Need to Know Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webinar, April 9, 2020

The Current and Potential Effects of the Coronavirus on Employers, Employees, and the Workplace Clear Law Institute, Webcast, April 6, 2020

Human Resources Legal Advice You Need to Know Now American Bus Association & USLAW Network, Webcast, April 3, 2020

COVID-19 Webinar Series: The Latest Local, State and Federal Mandates Impacting the Workplace Event, Presented by Amundsen Davis COVID-19 Task Force, March 18, 2020

Overview of New and Updated Illinois Laws IL Chamber of Commerce New Laws Forum; Lisle, IL, December 4, 2019



Preparing for Tomorrow's Problems Today: Marijuana, Wellness, Benefits and More

Event, Amundsen Davis, Seminar; Lombard, IL, September 25, 2019

Significant Illinois Legislation Changes Coming: Harassment and Discrimination Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Seminar; Chicago, IL 60606, September 19, 2019

New Illinois Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Legal Updates Speaking Engagement, Lorman Education Services; Webcast, September 18, 2019

How to Document and Terminate in YOUR Industry Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, August 21, 2019

Recreational Marijuana and the Construction Industry Speaking Engagement, Finishing Contractors Association of Illinois; Webcast, August 8, 2019

Institute for Law and the Workplace Employment Law Conference Chicago, IL; Chicago-Kent College of Law, June 4, 2019

Protecting Your Customer Relationships and Competitively Sensitive Information in Illinois Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webinar, December 5, 2018

Hiring and Firing: Doing it Right Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Glen Ellyn, IL, February 27, 2018

Directives from the Board Room: Will Your HR Team Fail or Save the Day? Amundsen Davis, Webcast; Chicago, IL, February 21, 2018

Employment Law Update for Businesses in Illinois and Indiana Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Tinley Park, IL, July 27, 2017

Prevailing Wage in Illinois - What's Changed for Employers? Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Springfield, IL, July 19, 2017

Properly Executing Non-compete Agreements in IL Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Webinar, June 14, 2017

Supervisor Training for Effective Management Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Naperville, IL, April 27, 2017

Women in the Workplace Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Seminar; Glen Ellyn, IL, April 11, 2017

The New Administration: Impact on the Workplace Examined Amundsen Davis, Seminar; Chicago, IL, February 16, 2017

New HR Laws Update Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Webinar, January 31, 2017



Human Resource Law: What You Need to Know Now National Business Institute, Seminar; Chicago, IL, December 5, 2016

New Laws Forum for Illinois Employers Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Seminar, November 30, 2016

U.S. Department of Labor New Overtime Pay Rule National Automatic Merchandising Association, Webinar, November 15, 2016

ELECTION 2016: Impact on the Workplace Examined Amundsen Davis, Webcast; Chicago, IL, November 10, 2016

2016 Employment Law Update for Illinois Employers Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Effingham, IL, July 7, 2016

Encore Webinar-- DOL Publishes Final Overtime Rule: What You Need to Know! Amundsen Davis, Webinar, June 22, 2016

#### **Published Works**

Time To Update Severance Agreements Publication, *Hoosier Banker Magazine*, May/June 2023

Politicians Aim To Force Unionization In The Private Sector *The Illinois Manufacturer Magazine*, August 2, 2021

New HR Laws Impacting Illinois Manufacturers The Illinois Manufacturer Magazine, April 30, 2021

Illinois Employment Forms-Online Version Publication, *Illinois Chamber of Commerce*, March 2021

COVID Fatigue? What You May Have Missed Related to Employment Laws InTouch Magazine – NAMA, Summer 2020

Coronavirus... Tornadoes... Data Breach... Oh My! Is Your Workplace Prepared for a Pandemic or Other Catastrophe? InTouch Magazine – NAMA, Spring 2020

Illinois Employment Law Handbook - 5th Edition Illinois Chamber of Commerce, 2019

New Year's Resolution for Operators Should Include an HR Checklist! InTouch Magazine – NAMA, Winter 2019

Illinois Employment Law Handbook, 4th Edition *Illinois Chamber of Commerce*, 2016



#### **Blog Posts**

Local and State Employment Law Update Labor & Employment Law Update, June 6, 2024

State and Local Employment Law Update – Family Leave, Fair Labor Standards Act, Religious Accommodations and More *Labor & Employment Law Update*, May 2, 2024

FTC Votes to Ban Non-Compete Clauses: What Does this Mean for Employers? *Labor & Employment Law Update*, April 24, 2024

Time is Running Out on Illinois Employers --- Better Have Your PAID LEAVE Policy in Place by 12-31-23! *Labor & Employment Law Update*, December 18, 2023

Local and State Employment Law Update: Various Terms Redefined *Labor & Employment Law Update*, June 27, 2022

Local and State Employment Law Updates: Wage Posters Labor & Employment Law Update, March 11, 2022

Local and State Employment Law Updates: A Mass Issuance of New Labor Posters *Labor & Employment Law Update*, March 7, 2022

Local and State Law Updates: From Minimum Wage to Medical Marijuana Labor & Employment Law Update, February 23, 2022

Local and State Law Updates: New Posters and Revised Legislation Labor & Employment Law Update, January 27, 2022

Local and State Law Updates: California and Oregon Issue New Posters Labor & Employment Law Update, January 21, 2022

