



Drake W. Staples

Partner

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Drake is a versatile attorney who combines litigation experience with transactional experience to deliver practical, results-driven solutions for clients. His ability to navigate complex legal challenges across a range of industries makes him a trusted advisor for businesses and organizations seeking clarity and confidence in high-stakes matters.

Litigation Practice

When disputes arise, Drake has ample experience providing decisive advocacy to protect the priorities of his clients. He has served as lead counsel for plaintiffs and defendants in federal and state courts across Kentucky, handling disputes and lawsuits over a broad range of matters, including business partner disputes, contract litigation, insurance coverage and bad faith claims, professional liability defense, banking litigation, trust and estate disputes, and construction defect claims.

Transactional Practice

Drake helps clients achieve their business objectives by structuring agreements that minimize risk and maximize value. In particular, he has drafted and negotiated contracts for the design, construction, equipment procurement, and operation of hyperscale, enterprise, and colocation facilities nationwide.

Beyond data centers, Drake also has experience advising on commercial leases and construction agreements for a diverse client base. He tailors construction agreements to align with each client's scope, budget, and delivery model, and helps ensure that his clients face fewer disputes and changes to project timelines. His thorough understanding of risk allocation and project delivery strategies translates into agreements that safeguard client interests from start to finish.

Whether drafting a nuanced agreement or litigating a multi-party dispute, Drake brings a pragmatic, detail-oriented approach that clients value. He is known for responsiveness, clear communication, and the ability to translate legal complexity into actionable guidance, helping clients make informed decisions with confidence.

Services

- Litigation
- Tort
- Real Estate
- Real Estate Construction
- Construction Industry
- Insurance Industry

Education

- University of Kentucky College of Law (J.D.)
- University of Kentucky (B.B.A., *cum laude*)
 - Finance and Marketing

Bar Admissions

- Kentucky

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky

Affiliations/Memberships

- American Bar Association
- American Bar Association Forum on Construction Law
- Kentucky Bar Association
- Fayette County Bar Association, Member (Board of Directors)

Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers in America*®
 - Ones To Watch, Commercial Litigation; Insurance Law; Litigation - Labor and Employment (2023-26)
- *Kentucky Super Lawyers*®
 - Rising Star (2022-26)