



## Kristeena L. Johnson

Partner

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Kristeena's practice focuses on commercial litigation matters, including claims of breach of contract, breach of non-compete agreements, breach of fiduciary duties and trade secret misappropriation. She also has experience defending defamation, wrongful death, Title VII, civil rights and Consumer Protection Act matters on behalf of both large and small corporate clients. She has handled a number of complex litigation matters and is adept in representing clients in a variety of settings including trials, arbitrations and evidentiary hearings.

Her clients range from individuals to businesses of all sizes. Kristeena works closely with clients, identifying their short and long-term needs so that she can provide them with the best counsel.

### Services

- Litigation

### Education

- University of Kentucky College of Law (J.D., 2012)
  - Kentucky Law Journal, senior staff editor
  - Order of the Coif
- Eastern Kentucky University (B.A., *summa cum laude*, 2009)
  - Political Science

### Bar Admissions

- Kentucky

### Distinctions

- Kentucky *Rising Stars*®
  - For Civil Litigation: Defense (2021-2023)
- *Best Lawyers*®
  - "Ones to Watch" in Lexington for Commercial Litigation (2021-2024)

## Experience

### **Litigation Involving the Ownership of Hundreds of Undeveloped Farm Acres in Fayette County**

The Firm successfully represented a well-known philanthropist in litigation involving the ownership of hundreds of undeveloped farm acres in Fayette County. Dinsmore obtained a judgment in Federal Court on behalf of a Trust, which judgment confirmed the Trust's ownership of the property (against the claims of a local developer). A portion of the disputed property was recently sold by the Trust for \$10 million and hundreds of acres remain owned and controlled by the Trust.

### **Pro Bono Case Representing Inmate in Excessive Force, Eighth Amendment to U.S. Constitution Violation**

At the request of the court, Dinsmore accepted pro bono representation of a state prisoner who had filed a pro se action against three prison guards employed or formerly employed by Northpoint Training Center in Burgin, Kentucky. The prisoner claimed that the guards used excessive force on him during a 2012 training exercise, in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and the Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The court permitted us to conduct limited discovery, and we prepared for trial on our client's claims against the guards. Two days before trial was scheduled to begin in federal district court in Lexington, Kentucky, the Commonwealth of Kentucky agreed to pay our client \$10,000 and return 383 days of good time credit that he had lost.