

## John Halpin, Partner, Laffey, Leitner & Goode LLC

John Halpin is a trial lawyer and partner at Laffey, Leitner & Goode LLC in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Before joining LLG, John worked one of the largest civil trial firms in Wisconsin and at an AmLaw 100 firm defending dealers and manufacturers across the country against allegations of design and manufacturing defects, installation and service errors, and inadequate instructions and warnings, as well as defending a number of national shipping & logistics companies faced with catastrophic injury claims due to trucking accidents. His experience early in his career, which included representation of some of the world's best-known brands and major manufacturers, has provided him with a depth and variety of experience that truly sets him apart from his peers.

While John still defends a number of transportation companies and product manufacturers and advises them on best practices for risk management and avoidance, he has expanded his commercial practice since joining LLG to include litigation of shareholder and fiduciary disputes, breaches of non-compete and other contractual clauses, and violations of franchise and dealership laws, particularly in the context of wrongful terminations. He also has a particular interest and growing list of clients who call on him to handle construction disputes and probate litigation.

John is graduate of the University of Notre Dame and Marquette University Law School, and he has been named a Rising Star in Product Liability Defense and Business Litigation by *Super Lawyers*® from 2011 through 2019. In 2020, he was named to *The Best Lawyers in America*<sup>TM</sup> in the fields of Construction Law and Product Liability Litigation. He is licensed to practice law in both Illinois and Wisconsin, and he is a member of the American Bar Association's Forums on Construction and Franchising, as well as the Defense Research Institute's Fire Science, Product Liability, and Transportation committees.

## Sarah Thomas Pagels, Partner at Laffey, Leitner & Goode LLC.

**Sarah Thomas Pagels** is a Partner at LLG. She joined LLG after 10 years in private practice at an AmLaw100 firm, specializing in product liability defense, toxic tort defense, commercial litigation, and e-discovery matters.

Her passion for fairness and justice for others started early – growing up a preacher's kid has made her both passionate and compassionate about her clients and their problems. She has been

negotiating and advocating for herself, her family and friends since she was in kindergarten, always seeking to find the solution that is reasonable, fair and just.

While perfectly comfortable in the courtroom, Sarah recognizes the need to seek creative and cost-effective solutions for her clients, including counseling clients on risk avoidance and mitigation, as well as engaging in alternative dispute resolution. She also has extensive experience managing the discovery process, with a specialty in leading a team of attorneys and paralegals in high volume, document intensive cases, utilizing technology to manage costs and locate key facts. She focuses on the details while keeping the big picture in mind.

Sarah is actively involved in the greater Milwaukee community and in professional and community associations including the Milwaukee Ballet and the Shorewood Swim Club, and the Northwestern Law Club of Milwaukee. Sarah is also active in DRI, where she serves as Publications Chair for the Women in the Law Committee.

When she's not practicing law (and when we aren't quarantined at home during a pandemic), Sarah is passionate about the arts, cooking and entertaining friends and family. She lives in Shorewood with her husband and daughter. Sarah and her family love spending time together watching Northwestern football, swimming and boating at their family lake houses 'up north,' and exploring the vibrant food and cultural scene that the greater Milwaukee area has to offer.

## Jordan Corning, Corporate Counsel, Epic Systems Corporation.

Jordan Corning serves as corporate counsel for Epic Systems Corporation, a leading medical software company in Verona, Wisconsin. In that role, Jordan negotiates contracts with Epic's customers and helps manage litigation, among other duties. Prior to joining Epic, Jordan spent nearly seven years as a private practice commercial litigator, most recently at the Madison office of Husch Blackwell.