

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

DECEMBER 2022



## CHRISTOPHER SMITH

### Company, Title, Years of Service

C.D. Smith Construction, Inc.  
Legal Counsel  
5 years

### College/University and Law School

University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Boston University School of Law

### How Do You Define Success?

Success for me is demonstrating the value of the legal department by foreseeing and forestalling a course of action that carries more risk than reward.

### Who Inspires You?

C.D. Smith relies on a core of field employees to translate our company values into physical creations. Having been raised by a carpenter, there are superintendents in the field that I have known for many years who are consistent, dedicated, and industrious beyond compare, and these are the individuals who inspire me most.

### What's One Thing—Industry-Related or Not—That You Have Learned in the Last Month?

If a baby is sick when developing a baby tooth, the nerves in the tooth may not completely grow in. When the baby - now a four-year-old - jumps off the couch and hits and breaks said tooth on a coffee table, the child will experience very little pain because of the lack of nerves.

### How Long Have You Been a Member with ACC-WI? Why Did You Join?

I have been in the ACC for four years. After starting my current role, many colleagues and outside counsel encouraged me to join. I have been lucky enough to speak with outside counsel on employment law panels over the years.

### Do You Participate in Any Pro Bono Service or Volunteering?

I am fortunate to volunteer as the President of the Saint Mary's Springs Academy Foundation Board of Directors, where we aim to support the students and faculty of a local parochial school with an amazing heritage. I recently joined the Board of Directors for the Arc of Fond du Lac as well.

### What Do You Love Most About the Legal Profession?

The variety; on any given week, my position can take me from a review of property rights in the excavated footprint of a future hospital to a mediation in a conference room overlooking the downtown skyline. I am lucky in that I am the legal outlet for all facets of our organization, so I work alongside many different personalities and professions, sorting out the best way to communicate with employees, management, and executives based on each person's needs and the company's best interest.

### What Podcast or Series Do You Recommend?

I just started watching White Lotus on HBO and can't get enough of the slow-building tension.