



## Abbey S. Widick

Associate

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Abbey Widick focuses her practice on education and labor and employment law. Abbey assists school districts through complex challenges associated with Title IX, Title VII, Title VI, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and Section 504 compliance, student and staff First Amendment rights, board governance matters, and student discipline and teacher termination hearings. Abbey leads clients to favorable investigation outcomes from the Department of Education: Office of Civil Rights and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, as well as favorable Due Process Complaint dismissals and negotiated resolutions.

Abbey's passion for education law was ignited while volunteering at Fortress Youth Development Center, an after-school program dedicated to helping elementary school children strengthen their academic and social-emotional skills. After mentoring and tutoring the same group of students for four years, she received Fortress's Volunteer of the Year Award. This passion for education was strengthened when Abbey served as Student Body President at Texas Christian University and then as the President of the Graduate and Professional Council at Washington University in St. Louis. Abbey currently mentors weekly at a local elementary school.

The daughter of two small-business owners, Abbey is dedicated to counseling and defending business owners in Missouri and Kansas. She focuses her employment law practice on claims under the Missouri Human Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, Title VII Employment Discrimination, and state tort law.

Abbey graduated cum laude from Washington University School of Law. While at Washington University, she received the Dean's Leadership Award for her university-wide leadership, the Dean's Service Award for her dedication to pro bono clients, and an Academic Excellence Award for graduating in the top 15 percent of her class.

Outside of work, Abbey enjoys cooking seafood dishes, outdoor walks, and counseling youth summer camps.

### *Areas of Practice:*

- Education Law
- Labor & Employment

### *Education:*

- Washington University School of Law, J.D., 2022, Cum Laude
  - President of the Graduate and Professional Council
  - Primary Editor of the Washington University Journal of Law and Policy
- Texas Christian University, B.S., 2019, Summa Cum Laude
  - Student Body President

### *Bar and Court Admissions:*

- Missouri Bar
- Kansas Bar
- Eastern District of Missouri
- Western District of Missouri

### *Professional Affiliations:*

- Missouri Bar Association
- Kansas Bar Association
- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis
- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association

### *Distinctions*

- Best Lawyers Ones to Watch Designation, 2024