



David W. Ybarra

Partner | Partner-in-Charge, Southern Illinois

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Southern Illinois - 618.239.3615

As a trial lawyer, David Ybarra knows first-hand how frustrating and disruptive litigation can be for business, particularly when there are disconnects among risk tolerance, likely outcomes for success and the cost to pursue solutions. Clients recognize David's strengths and genuine interest in aligning litigation strategy to what is in the best interest for the short and long-term needs of an organization. His strengths extend well beyond technical legal expertise and require a level of straight talk to help clients have the courage to pursue the best approach.

David has tried numerous cases in Illinois and Missouri, including toxic tort, construction, premises liability and general commercial litigation. He has successfully briefed appeals before the Illinois Supreme Court, Fifth District Illinois Court of Appeals and the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

He has first-chaired several trials, including on behalf of a national manufacturer in an asbestos case in Madison County, Illinois, in 2010. After seven days of trial, his client was dismissed from the case. David's work in that case resulted in him being retained as counsel for a national auto manufacturer for a significant portion of its asbestos litigation in Illinois and Missouri.

As counsel for multiple defendants in asbestos litigation pending in Madison, St. Clair, and Cook County, Illinois, as well as St. Louis, Missouri, he is responsible for all aspects of defending cases, including significant motion practice, discovery issues, defending and taking expert witness depositions and negotiating case resolutions. He also trains and mentors new associates who assist with toxic tort litigation. David also invests and prioritizes training and mentoring new associates.

Education

- University of Illinois College of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2000)
- University of North Texas (B.A., 1997)
 - Political Science

Bar Admissions

Practices & Industries

- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Financial Services
- Product Liability
- Financial Services Industry
- Toxic Tort and Environmental Litigation

- Illinois
- Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

Professional Affiliations

- American Bar Association
- Illinois State Bar Association
- St. Clair County Bar Association
- Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel
- Defense Research Institute
- Hispanic National Bar Association

Firm Involvement

- Partner-in-Charge, Southern Illinois

Awards & Honors

- Named to *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Product Liability Litigation - Defendants (2022-2026)
- Named *Best Lawyers*® Product Liability Litigation - Defendants “Lawyer of the Year” (2025)
- *Who's Who Diversity in Color* (2015)
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Fellows Program (2011-2012)
- Illinois Leading Lawyers – Product Liability Defense, Toxic Tort Defense

Experience

- **Toxic Tort.** Represented a national brake and muffler manufacturer in an asbestos case in Madison County, Illinois. After seven days of trial, which included significant pre-trial motion practice, opening statements, and cross-examination of several expert witnesses, his client was dismissed from the case.
- **Premises Liability.** Obtained a defense verdict in a premises liability action in St. Clair County, Illinois, and summary judgment in Wabash County, Illinois.
- **Construction Litigation.** Obtained a favorable defense verdict in a breach-of-contract case against a general contractor for alleged construction defects in Madison County, Illinois.
- **Health Care Litigation.** Obtained summary judgment for hospital administrators in an action alleging disclosure of confidential health information in Jackson County, Illinois.
- **Commercial Litigation.** Obtained a favorable result in the Illinois Supreme Court in an action alleging spoliation of evidence against an insurance company.
- **Commercial Litigation.** Obtained a defense verdict in a breach-of-contract lawsuit in St. Clair County, Illinois.
- **Commercial Litigation.** Obtained a very favorable settlement in a negligence claim

resulting in a meaningful payment for the client.

News & Media

August 21, 2025

UB Greensfelder Attorneys Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America® 2026 List

August 15, 2024

UB Greensfelder Attorneys Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America® 2025 List

August 17, 2023

Best Lawyers 2024 Edition Lists 66 Greensfelder Attorneys, Including Five “Lawyers Of The Year”

August 18, 2022

Best Lawyers 2023 Edition Lists Over 60 Greensfelder Attorneys, Including Five St. Louis ‘Lawyers Of The Year’

August 19, 2021

Best Lawyers 2022 Edition Lists 60 Greensfelder Attorneys, Including Three St. Louis ‘Lawyers Of The Year’