



Steven G. Carlson

Attorney

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Steve is a seasoned litigation attorney with over 20 years of experience representing corporate clients and insurers in some of their most complex and high-exposure cases. While deeply rooted in the Wisconsin legal community, Steve regularly manages litigation dockets and coordinates defense strategy across jurisdictions. Clients rely on him not just for results, but for clear communication, sound judgment, and a steady hand throughout litigation.

Steve's practice spans a wide range of civil disputes, including:

- Product liability
- Toxic torts (including asbestos)
- Fire & explosion claims
- Environmental and pollution liability
- General liability and casualty defense
- Commercial and contract disputes
- Construction-related claims
- Medical malpractice/healthcare liability

Steve is Chair of the firm's Fire & Explosion Litigation Section. As a Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator (NAFI-CFEI) and Fire Investigation Technician (IAAI-FIT®), Steve leads origin and cause investigations, directs forensic examinations, and crafts effective defense strategies across industries.

Steve also defends asbestos mesothelioma and lung cancer claims in high-risk jurisdictions across the country, including Cook County, Madison County, NYCAL, and California. He brings a strong command of litigation dynamics in both state and federal courts and has overseen national litigation involving hundreds of claims.

Working with a collaborative team of experienced litigators and subject-matter attorneys, Steve provides seamless support in complex, multi-issue cases. He leverages the firm's full-service platform to address regulatory, employment, insurance, or environmental aspects strategically and efficiently. He has integrated AI-powered tools to streamline legal research, discovery, and case preparation—enhancing responsiveness and cost-efficiency for clients.

Areas of Practice

- Fire & Explosion Litigation
- Product Liability
- Toxic Tort
- Litigation and Risk Management
- Manufacturing

Education

- University of Wisconsin, J.D., 2004
- Emory University, B.A., 2001

Bar Admissions

- Wisconsin
- Illinois
- Minnesota

- U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin, Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 7th Circuit

Professional and Civic Associations

- Milwaukee Bar Association
- State Bar of Wisconsin
- Defense Research Institute
- International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)
- National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI)

Honors and Accomplishments

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Product Liability Litigation - Defendants (2021-2026), Commercial Litigation (2024-2026)
- AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rated by *Martindale-Hubbell*®
- Wisconsin Rising Stars (2011-2013, 2015-2019)

Community Involvement

- Medical College of Wisconsin Neuroscience Research Center, Advisory Board