

John F. Lorentzen

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DES MOINES OFFICE

John Lorentzen practices in [commercial litigation](#), insurance, and [ERISA](#). His practice in these areas includes [litigation](#) and appeals before state and federal courts and agencies.

He has been involved as first chair in a number of trials, both jury and non-jury; arbitrations; and in over 30 reported or pending appeals.

RECOGNITION

Martindale-Hubbell

AV® Preeminent

The Best Lawyers in America®

Commercial Litigation, 2012–2025

Great Plains Super Lawyers

Business Litigation, 2012–2024

Order of the Coif

Order of Barristers

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association

Litigation Section

Iowa State Bar Association

Polk County Bar Association

Iowa Defense Counsel Association

SIGNIFICANT CASES

***McKenna v. Meadowvale Dairy Employee Benefit Plan*, 973 F.3d 805 (8th Cir. 2020).** Assignment of benefits to provider would not constitute appointment of provider as an authorized representative for internal ERISA appeals.

***Telligen, Inc. v. Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company*, 413 F.Supp.3d 842 (S.D. Iowa 2019).** DOL’s request for inspection of ERISA plan documents was not a claim that was required to be reported to liability insurer.

***Decker Plastics Corp. v. West Bend Mutual Insurance Company* 880 F.3d 1017 (8th Cir. 2018).** Physical damage from manufacturing defect not caused by “occurrence”.



PRACTICE AREAS

- [Litigation](#)
- [Business & Commercial Litigation](#)
- [ERISA Litigation](#)
- [Insurance Coverage & Conduct](#)

EDUCATION

- St. Olaf College (B.A., with honors)
- Drake University (J.D., with honors)

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Iowa
- Admitted to practice in all state and federal courts in Iowa
- Federal District Court, Central District of Illinois
- Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals
- U.S. Supreme Court

[Rebarcak v. Cincinnati Insurance Company 2017 WL 5957200 \(S.D. Iowa 2017\)](#). No bad faith tort claim for breach of workers' compensation settlement agreement.

[Iowa Code § 522B.11\(7\) \(2011\)](#). Re-establishing elements of negligence claim against insurance agent. Abrogating in part *Langwith v. Am. Nat'l Gen. Ins. Co.*, 793 N.W.2d 215 (Iowa 2010), appeal after remand, 2012 WL 4513904 (Iowa Ct. App. 2012).

[McGinnis v. The Iowa Clinic 2009 WL 2424643 \(Iowa Ct. App. 2009\)](#). No common law direct action by shareholders against corporation.

[W.C. Stewart Constr., Inc. v. Cincinnati Ins. Co. 2009 WL 928871 \(Iowa Ct. App. 2009\)](#). Physical damage from construction defect not caused by "occurrence".

[Travelers Cas. & Sur. Co. of Am. v. IADA Servs., Inc., 497 F.3d 862, 76 U.S.L.W. 1120 \(8th Cir. 2007\)](#). No right of contribution between shared fiduciaries under ERISA (circuit split between the 2nd and 7th and the 8th and 9th).

[Iowa Grocery Indus. Ass'n v. City of Des Moines 712 N.W.2d 675 \(Iowa 2006\)](#). Municipal ordinance preempted by state statute.