

## Katie Hamilton

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DES MOINES OFFICE

Music is so much a part of Katie Hamilton’s life that she considered majoring in music. But the practice of law sang to her. “I quickly realized that music was not what I wanted to do,” she says.

Instead she took a chance, moved to California, gained business experience, then returned to finish her undergraduate business degree. The harmony between law and business resonated, leading her to law school. As a litigator, Katie practices in several areas including labor and employment law.

Grounded and down-to-earth, Katie sees her clients’ needs as her biggest inspiration. “They’re depending on us,” she says. She wants clients to know that she’s prepared with creative business strategies and legal solutions. “I try to be welcoming, so they can be honest with me and feel like they’re not being judged.”

When she moved to California, Katie wanted to explore life beyond her hometown of Cedar Rapids. An offer from a friend’s family gave her a place to stay until she found a job at a small start-up. “I learned a lot of life skills, and I grew a lot from the experience,” Katie says. “It definitely helped me figure out what I wanted to do and have a path in life.”

Back in Iowa, Katie gained stronger insight into her goals for a law career. “When I moved back, I worked on a project with a women’s shelter in Cedar Rapids,” Katie says. “I saw all the different areas of law that were affecting the women of our shelter.” For the project, Katie helped underemployed and unemployed women find jobs. She helped with résumés, shopped for professional clothes with the women, and set up mock interviews. “I saw how the law had impacted their lives in so many different ways,” she says. The project piqued Katie’s interest in labor and employment law.

Now Katie applies the knowledge she’s gained from mentors, jobs, and law school in her work for clients. Her goal in the courtroom is to always hit the right note for her clients.

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### ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

**Drake Law Review**

Junior Staff

**Order of the Coif**



### PRACTICE AREAS

- Litigation
- Business & Commercial Litigation
- Employment, Labor & Discrimination
- Intellectual Property Litigation

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### EDUCATION

- Mount Mercy University (B.B.A. Management, summa cum laude)
- Drake University (J.D. with highest honors)

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### BAR ADMISSIONS

- Iowa
- Southern District of Iowa
- Northern District of Iowa

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### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Student Attorney, Drake Legal Clinic – Civil
- Extern, Iowa Supreme Court, Justice Brent Appel
- Summer Associate, Nyemaster
- Law Clerk, Baer Law Office

**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Drake University Law School**  
Dean's List

**Four American Jurisprudence Awards**

**Delta Theta Phi**  
Academic Co-Chair

**PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE**

- Legal Intern, Public Defender's Office – Wrongful Convictions