# Barret V. Van Sicklen Attorney

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Tired of asking your lawyer a question only to receive a complicated answer filled with legal terminology attached to a bill for thousands of dollars? Barret is committed to providing simple, straight-forward and efficient solutions to his clients' complex legal problems. As an associate with more than six years of civil litigation experience, Barret helps his clients and assists shareholders of DeWitt in the areas of general civil litigation, construction litigation, labor and employment litigation matters, and landlord/tenant disputes (including commercial and residential evictions).

### Clients

Barret provides skilled representation throughout the court system of Wisconsin. He also routinely practices in the Western and Eastern Districts of Wisconsin and the United States Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit. Additionally, he routinely helps shareholders advise and represent construction companies in a variety of areas, including: contract disputes, indemnification issues, bid process, lien rights, and collecting on unpaid accounts. His labor and employment practice focuses on protecting companies' confidential information, non-compete disputes, and wage and hour issues. His practice also includes guiding landlords through the eviction process and helping businesses collect on outstanding accounts.

#### Client Recommendations

"Barret has helped me on more than one occasion resolve some landlord/tenant and collection issues. He has resolved these with positive results in an effective, timely and professional manner. I highly recommend Barret and his law firm, and I will use him again in the future if need be." -- John McGrady; Vice President (Dean Realty Group, Inc.).

## Notable Representations

- Lead associate representing a construction company as a plaintiff in a lawsuit against another construction company alleging, among other claims, breach of contract, unjust enrichment and misrepresentation.
- Lead associate representing a Wisconsin electronics company that successfully obtained an injunction against a former employee from using its confidential information in a suit involving allegations of unfair competition, tortious interference with business expectancy and theft.
- Lead associate representing a construction company as a plaintiff against a sub-contractor involving indemnification and insurance coverage issues.
- Lead associate aiding several nursing homes obtain and collect on judgments throughout Wisconsin.
- Successfully defended a dairy company from a wrongful refusal to rehire claim.
- Regularly assists contractors and design professionals with respect to lien rights.
- Successfully defended real estate developer on breach of contract and foreclosure on bond claims.
- Assisted construction company in an arbitration proceeding related to alleged design defects.
- Successfully represented engineering company on breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract, and related claims.
- Routinely assist construction and design professional companies with respect to collection matters.

## **Articles / Presentations**

- "Buying a Company? Be Wary of FLSA-Based Liabilities," A Labor of Law, DeWitt Ross & Stevens, May 31, 2013
- "Janie's Got a Gun...Unless She Sees a Sign or Her Employer Prohibits It," DeWitt Ross & Stevens
  Client Alert, July 14, 2011
- Presenter, "FMLA Update: What Employers Need to Know from an Employment & Employee Benefits Perspective," DeWitt Ross & Stevens HR Roundtable, September 21-22, 2011
- Presenter at a Lorman Seminar regarding Lien Law

# Expertise

- Construction Industry
- Labor & Employment Relations
- Litigation
- Real Estate, Land Use & Construction
- Construction

# Education

- J.D., University of Wisconsin Law School
- B.A., University of Chicago

## Admissions

- State Bar of Wisconsin
- Supreme Court of Wisconsin
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit
- U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin

# **Affiliations**

- Dane County Bar Association
- New Lawyers Section Board Member
- Jefferson County Bar Association
- Madison 56ers Soccer Club Board of Directors
- State Bar of Wisconsin Young Lawyers Division

# Honors

• Rising Star - Wisconsin Super Lawyers®