



MELODY R. DICKSON

Partner

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In Brief

- **Partner of Wagstaff + Cartmell LLP**
- **Appointed as lead attorney in a nationwide class action on behalf of 200,000 business merchants seeking redress for a multi-million-dollar overbilling scheme**
- **Has specialized knowledge in litigating personal injury claims in tractor-trailer accidents**
- **Named to Kansas and Missouri Rising Stars for Business Litigation, Personal Injury, and Transportation Law**

Melody Dickson is an experienced litigator that dedicates her practice to complex commercial litigation and business disputes. Melody has successfully represented hundreds of businesses across the country in State and Federal Courts, ranging from sole proprietorships to Fortune 500 Companies. Melody has obtained millions of dollars in compensation for our business clients that have been harmed by unfair or illegal practices. Melody’s experience includes prosecuting claims involving financial and investment fraud, False Claims Act, RICO, breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, tortious interference, and bad faith insurance disputes, among others.

Most recently, Melody was appointed as one of the lead attorneys in a nationwide class action on behalf of 200,000 business merchants seeking redress for a multimillion-dollar overbilling scheme orchestrated by an independent sales organization. Melody also played a prominent role in the successful representation of a hotel franchisee in a complex commercial fraud and contract dispute against a national hotel franchisor, represented 15 community banks in a high-profile commercial loan dispute, and litigated to resolution a private nuisance action and multimillion-dollar bad faith insurance dispute.

Melody has also prosecuted high-stakes cases on behalf of consumers and individuals who have fallen victim to corporate greed, product defects, and gross negligence. She served as class counsel in *Bang v. BMW of North America, No. 2:15-cv-6945 (D.N.J.)* alleging defects in BMW’s N63 engine, obtaining a settlement awarding financial compensation and extended service warranty benefits to the consumer class. Melody also has experience litigating personal injury claims, with specialized knowledge in tractor-trailer accidents. Melody’s expertise and tenacity has resulted in eight-figure recoveries for personal injury and wrongful death victims.

Since 2016, Melody has been named to Kansas and Missouri Rising Stars for Business Litigation, Personal Injury, and Transportation Law which recognizes less than 2.5 percent of attorneys in each state.

Notable Litigation

Bang v. BMW of North America, No. 2:15-cv-6945 (D.N.J.)

Wagstaff & Cartmell attorney, Eric Barton, served as Co-Lead Class Counsel in an excessive oil and battery consumption class action. He helped obtain final court approval of a settlement awarding financial and extended service benefits to a class of over 80,000 owners and lessees of BMW vehicles with an N63 engine.

Skip’s Precision Welding, et al. v. Central Payment Co. (D. Neb.)

Wagstaff & Cartmell attorney, Ty Hudson, served as the court-appointed lead counsel for a certified class of more than 200,000 merchants suing an independent sales organization for breach of contract, fraud, and RICO violations alleging the company engaged in a scheme to overbill small businesses on credit card processing fees.

Hotel Case

Wagstaff & Cartmell attorney, Ty Hudson, acted as lead counsel for a Kansas City-based hotel franchisee in a complex commercial fraud and contract action against an international hotel franchisor. He helped obtain a confidential settlement for the client after more than five years of litigation.



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Practice Areas

Melody handled cases in class actions & commercial litigation and mass actions & personal injury. Melody has represented developers, franchisees, investors, large companies, small businesses and entrepreneurs in a wide range of litigation. Melody has built a national reputation handling some of the nation’s largest and most challenging mass actions and achieving highly regarded results along the way. She has also:

- Recovered more than \$800 million in class action litigation
- Obtained dismissals in eight and nine figure disputes
- Appointed to leadership positions in major class action suits
- Recovered billions of dollars on behalf of clients
- Achieved historic results in catastrophic injury and wrongful death suits
- Regularly appointed to leadership positions in MDLs nationwide (verify their relevancy)

Her primary areas of practice include:

- Antitrust
- Breach of contract
- Business torts
- Franchise litigation
- Professional malpractice
- Financial and investment fraud
- SEC whistleblower/qui tam actions

Prior Work Experience

TBD

Education

- J.D., University of Missouri Kansas City School of Law
 - Order of the Barristers
 - UMKC Law Review
 - National Moot Court Team
 - Honors in Pro Bono Public Service
- B.A., University of Missouri – Columbia

Professional Organizations

- [Association for Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City](#)
- [American Association for Justice](#)
- [Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault – Community Support Committee](#)
- [Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association](#)

Admissions

- [Missouri](#)
- [Kansas](#)
- [U.S. District Court, District of Kansas](#)
- [U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri](#)
- [U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri](#)
- [U.S. District Court, Northern District of Oklahoma](#)
- [U.S. District Court, District of Nebraska](#)
- [U.S. Court of Appeals, Eight Circuit](#)

Honors and Awards

- Rising Star, Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyer – 2016-Present