MASLONLLP



LEAH KIPPOLA-FRISKE

Partner

leah.kippola-friske@maslon.com
Phone: 612.672.8323

OVERVIEW

Leah Kippola-Friske is a partner in Maslon's Litigation Group with more than a decade of experience in complex commercial disputes. Leah's practice focuses on business litigation, including breach of contract, ownership disputes, fraud, defamation, and other business torts. Leah also represents clients in insurance disputes and construction and real estate matters. She practices in state and federal courts nationwide and also represents clients in the appellate courts.

Leah assists clients in navigating all phases of litigation. With more than 300 court appearances, she knows litigation inside and out—and appreciates the importance of employing whatever strategies best serve a client's needs. Leah is equally comfortable tackling trials, arbitrations, mediations, or administrative hearings. She also has significant experience advising clients on strategies to limit litigation risk and training employees on these initiatives.

Leah is a frequent presenter on issues involving litigation in the insurance industry and best practices and strategies in various phases of litigation, including discovery, depositions, and trials.

Outside of work, Leah enjoys spending time with her husband and sons, cooking, being outdoors, and reading historical fiction and non-fiction.

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

- Secured a significant summary judgment victory on behalf of a manufacturer of industrial cleaning supplies and equipment in defense of a fraud counterclaim in a breach of contract case.
- Successfully disqualified a damages expert through a Frye-Mack challenge in defense against a fraud claim.
- Represented several physicians in a minority shareholder oppression case against an ambulatory surgical center, its board of directors, and the management company, including the granting of a motion for punitive damages.

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Litigation

- Appeals
- Business Litigation
- Construction & Real Estate Litigation
- Employment Litigation
- Insurance Recovery
- Tort & Product Liability

BAR ADMISSIONS

Minnesota

U.S. District Court

- Minnesota

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota Law School
J.D., *cum laude*, 2013

Northern Michigan University
B.S., *magna cum laude*, 2006
Political Science

- Obtained a favorable jury verdict in a construction payment dispute for a manufacturer of construction site access mats.
- Represented a reinsurer in an arbitration involving a coverage dispute.
- Secured dismissal of a bad faith claim through summary judgment in a coverage dispute involving long-term disability benefits.
- Served on a team representing an insurance carrier in an ERISA case that was appealed to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals twice, resulting in a favorable decision for the client.

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY

- American Bar Association: Forum on Construction Law; Litigation Section
- International Claims Association: Law Committee Member 2023-2026
- Children's Law Center of Minnesota: Board Vice Chair 2026; Board of Directors 2024-Present; Volunteer Attorney
- Federal Bar Association
- Minnesota State Bar Association
- Hennepin County Bar Association
- Minnesota Women Lawyers
- Women Presidents Organization

SELECTED HONORS

- **Recognized on Minnesota Rising Stars list as part of the Super Lawyers® selection process**, 2019-2023 (*Minnesota Rising Stars is a designation given to only 2.5% of Minnesota attorneys each year, based on a selection process that includes the recommendation of peers in the legal profession.*)
- **Selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch**, 2022-2025 (*These awards recognize attorneys, who are earlier in their careers, for outstanding professional excellence in private practice in the United States.*)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- "Hide and Seek: Finding Hidden Assets and Undoing Fraudulent Transfers," co-presenter, Anthony Ostlund Lying, Cheating, & Stealing Seminar, 2026
- "Litigation Liberation: How a Special Litigation Committee Can Save the Day (and the Company)," co-presenter, Business Law Institute, Minnesota CLE, 2026
- "Hogwarts School of Risk Transfer: CG 20 10, CG 20 37, and the Grimoire of Additional Insurance," co-presenter, Minnesota State Bar Association Construction Law Section, 2026
- "Disclosures Under Minnesota Rule of Civil Procedure 26.01," co-presenter, Navigating Civil Cases in Minnesota State Court, Minnesota CLE, 2026
- "Problems on the Site? Maximizing Your Recovery by Avoiding Common Pitfalls in Reporting Insurance Claims & Filing Mechanic's Liens," co-presenter, March Education, Association of Women Contractors, 2025

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- The Long Arm of the North Star State: Minnesota's Jurisdictional Reach in Business Litigation
- "What To Know About Project-Specific Professional Liability," co-author, *Law360*, 2026
- "Initial, Expert, and Pretrial Disclosures Under Rule 26.01," co-author, *Minnesota State District Court Civil Practice Deskbook, 4th Edition*, Minnesota CLE, 2026
- "Initial, Expert, and Pretrial Disclosures Under Rule 26.01," co-author, *Minnesota State District Court Civil Practice Deskbook, 4th Edition*, Minnesota CLE, 2025
- "Initial, Expert, and Pretrial Disclosures Under Rule 26.01," co-author, Minnesota State District Court Civil Practice Deskbook, 4th Edition, Minnesota CLE, 2024