

## Foulston Siefkin LLP is ranked in Chambers USA as follows:

Law firms and individual lawyers are ranked by Chambers USA in bands from 1-6.

## KANSAS

### CORPORATE/M&A

#### Leading Firms (Corporate/M&A)

1 FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP

#### Leading Individuals (Corporate/M&A)

1 Sorensen, Harvey *Foulston Siefkin, Wichita*

1 Wood, William *Foulston Siefkin, Wichita*

#### Leading Individuals (Corporate/M&A: Tax)

1 Arnel, Kevin *Foulston Siefkin, Wichita*

1 Hurst, Christopher *Foulston Siefkin, Wichita*

1 Nolan, Andrew *Foulston Siefkin, Wichita*

#### Senior Statesmen (Corporate/M&A: Tax)

Andeel, Stanley *Foulston Siefkin, Wichita*

#### Band 1

##### Foulston Siefkin LLP

**What the team is known for** Preeminent practice offering a large team of experienced practitioners with specialties across the corporate and M&A landscape. Demonstrates expertise in venture capital and securities offerings, among other areas, and has unparalleled strength in tax-related matters concerning corporate transactions. Also maintains a strong practice in the healthcare space, advising on a range of transactions, and state and federal regulatory matters.

**Strengths** Clients consider the firm to be: *"a first-class organization whose broad-based experience helps us get the best results."*

**Work highlights** Handled the merger of Cornerstone Alliance's bank holding company and bank into the acquiring holding company and bank for cash. Work included assisting the client with the negotiation and closing of the merger agreement and related disclosure matters, as well as in the preparation of the merger approval materials.

#### Notable practitioners

**Stanley Andeel** utilizes his wealth of experience to assist clients with a broad range of state and federal tax matters. His deep taxation law expertise complements his ability to deal with healthcare, estate planning, and business formation and divestiture matters. Managing partner **Kevin Arnel** is noted for his handling of tax matters, particularly impressing in those involving tax-exempt organisations. One source enthuses: *"It has been a tremendous experience to work with Kevin. He is always very responsive and is able to work quickly to provide solutions to the questions we present."* **Christopher Hurst** is highly regarded for his strength in the tax space, advising clients on a range of tax minimization strategies. He also advises on the tax aspects of a range of corporate transactions, including M&A and capital market offerings. One impressed client reports: *"He is as good as a tax lawyer as we've come across. He has a great handle on the code and can answer questions on the fly, so he's very efficient."* **Andrew**

**Nolan** leads the firm's tax practice, advising corporate clients with regard to matters such as entity formation, tax planning and the tax aspects of M&A. He is, according to an impressed client, *"a phenomenal individual."* The *"extremely experienced and knowledgeable"* **Harvey Sorensen** is routinely sought after by public and private corporate entities to advise on sophisticated M&A, economic development incentives and income tax planning matters. Interviewees report that he is *"very responsive and able to come up with creative solutions."* **William Wood** is widely considered to be an excellent choice of counsel for a range of corporate matters, including M&A, venture capital investments, and private equity and securities transactions. One client reports: *"I have always found Bill to be exceptional and talented, and to have a tremendous knowledge."* His corporate practice works in tandem with his strong real estate offering.

## LABOR & EMPLOYMENT

### Leading Firms (Labor & Employment)

1 FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP

### Leading Individuals (Labor & Employment)

2 Byers, Boyd Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

3 Berner, Donald Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

3 Rhodes Jr., Forrest Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

3 Shulda, Teresa Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

3 Thelen, Trisha Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

### Leading Individuals (Labor & Employment) Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation

1 Hanisch, Douglas Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

1 Lacey, Jason Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

### Notable practitioners

**Douglas Hanisch** is an experienced attorney who specializes in the field of employee benefit plans and practices. He is well-versed in a spectrum of matters in the sector, including group insurance plans, retirement plans and flexible benefits and cafeteria plans. **Jason Lacey** comes recommended for his quality representation of both taxable and tax-exempt employers in a range of employee benefits and executive compensation matters, including those concerning retirement savings, welfare benefits plans and deferred compensation plans. One impressed client reports: "He's phenomenal. He understands the risks in what can be a complicated area and always does a great job of keeping us informed." **Boyd Byers** maintains a strong employment litigation practice that sees him acting across Kansas and the Midwest region in disputes regarding collective bargaining and class action cases under the Fair Labor Standards Act. Clients attest that he is "good at issue spotting and looking at the big picture," and has an "ability to assess a situation and offer a response without it taking hours or days." **Donald Berner** specializes in labor and employment matters involving wage and hour, health and safety and human resource-related issues. He frequently acts before a number of

### Band 1

#### Foulston Siefkin LLP

**What the team is known for** Exceptional labor and employment practice offering a breadth of experience and expertise across numerous sectors, including retail, healthcare, aerospace, energy and finance. Well-versed in ERISA and employee benefit matters as well as immigration issues. Also adept in employment litigation, with the team regularly representing clients in complex class action matters and in defense of wrongful and retaliatory discharge and discriminatory claims.

**Strengths** One client admires that the team has "a high level of expertise and a deep bench which benefits us on our more complex litigation."

**Work highlights** Advised Spirit AeroSystems in relation to an attempt by the SPEEA labor union to compel it to arbitrate class-wide disputes relating to the interpretation and application of a collection bargaining agreement.

government agencies and clients are particularly impressed with his ability to advise on immigration and nationality matters. A "well-respected" **Forrest Rhodes** serves employers in a wide range of matters, with particular emphasis on government audits and state and federal litigation concerning discrimination and employee safety disputes. He is additionally experienced in a number of labor management issues, including contract negotiation and union organization. **Teresa Shulda** impresses one interviewee with her "common sense approach to legal issues" and ability to "understand the HR world and what you're doing from a business perspective." She assists clients in a broad range of employment matters, including discrimination and contract disputes, and in relation to government agency proceedings. **Trisha Thelen** is an impressive practitioner who is known for her representation of employers in class action litigation and arbitration. She leads the firm's electronic discovery committee and boasts specialist expertise in the retention and management of e-mails and other electronic files. One peer attests: "She's effective. I have a lot of respect for her."

## LITIGATION

## GENERAL COMMERCIAL

### Leading Firms (Litigation: General Commercial)

1 FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP

### Senior Statesmen (Litigation: General Commercial)

Senior Statesmen: distinguished older partners

Stout, Mikel Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

### Leading Individuals (Litigation: General Commercial)

1 Armstrong, James Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

1 Fowler, Jay Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

2 Oliver, James Foulston Siefkin, Kansas City

2 Rupp, Anthony Foulston Siefkin, Kansas City

2 Warta, Darrell Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

3 Ayers, Gary Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

3 Jordan, Jeffery Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

3 Rogers, David Foulston Siefkin, Wichita

### Notable practitioners

Senior statesman **Mikel Stout** is a long-standing figure in the Kansas litigation market, and commands admiration for his broad commercial practice. One interviewee asserts: *"He's a landmark in the community. He is top notch."* **James Armstrong** is a talented lawyer with deep expertise in IP, employment and securities disputes. He stands out for his ability to deal with False Claims Act disputes and class actions. Sources say: *"He does a very good job of presenting issues to the court."* **Jay Fowler** is considered by his peers to be a *"top flight"* litigator who handles *"high-quality work."* He has long been known as a leading trial lawyer in the state, and regularly represents clients in sophisticated IP employment and fiduciary duty litigation. **James Oliver** has long been considered a strong litigator in the state of Kansas. He represents corporate clients in a broad sweep of business litigation, and is highlighted by sources for his excellent appellate practice. Sources say that **Anthony Rupp** is an *"unflappable and diligent"* lawyer who is *"very persistent and smart with what he's doing."* He is noted for his handling of product liability, trade secret and business disputes, and also offers noted expertise in professional liability cases.

### Band 1

#### Foulston Siefkin LLP

**What the team is known for** Preeminent litigation practice of highly skilled practitioners with expertise across a wide range of sectors, including financial services, manufacturing and healthcare. Noted for its adroit counsel in a wide variety of disputes at both state and federal level, and excels in IP, antitrust and contract litigation, as well as bet-the-company cases. Further strength in the ability to defend clients against state and federal agency charges in both pretrial negotiations and in resulting litigation.

**Strengths** One interviewee attests: *"I believe that their strengths are availability - they're always willing to make themselves available - and as far as litigation strategy, they do a very good job of highlighting issues that come up."*

**Work highlights** Successfully procured \$3.3 million in damages for Aeroflex Wichita in a six-week trial arising out of allegations of tortious interference, misappropriation of trade secrets and civil conspiracy against two former employees following their move to Tel-Instrumental Electronics.

**Darrell Warta** is an esteemed litigator who is recommended by market observers for the quality of his professional liability and personal injury practice. Interviewees regularly endorse his strong reputation and praise his excellent advocacy, with one interviewee affirming that he is *"very well respected."* **Gary Ayers** is a *"very bright and experienced"* attorney who ably litigates in both state and federal courts. Peers attest that he is *"extremely competent"* in regulatory and trade secret litigation, particularly as it occurs within the healthcare sphere. **Jeffery Jordan** is a highly regarded lawyer with a broad practice that includes expertise in product liability, construction and bankruptcy litigation. He is widely respected by his peers, who remark that he is *"a very capable litigator."* The *"highly respected"* **David Rogers** has a solid reputation for litigating sophisticated cases in state and federal courts across the Midwest, including those involving product liability, insurance and construction disputes.

REAL ESTATE

Leading Firms (Real Estate)
<div>2</div> FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP

Leading Individuals (Real Estate)
<div>1</div> Voth Blankenship, Patricia <i>Foulston Siefkin, Wichita</i>
<div>2</div> Wood, William <i>Foulston Siefkin, Wichita</i>

Band 2

Foulston Siefkin LLP

**What the team is known for** Strong real estate and financing group with experience assisting clients across a wide range of sectors, including energy, healthcare, education and hospitality. Routinely represents a client base of investors, developers, lenders and owners. Its talented team handles all aspects of real estate and has notable expertise in leasing, development and land use matters.

**Strengths** One hugely impressed client notes: *"The folks at Foulston bring greater value to us because they know the law so well that they can analyze things much quicker than other attorneys, therefore you get more for the money you spend."*

Notable practitioners

**Patricia Voth Blankenship** heads the firm's real estate, energy and environmental practice. She is well-versed in handling leasing, development and finance matters, and offers noted experience of the real estate aspects of wind power projects. Clients say: *"She always looks after our best interest and will explain very well the consequences of a legal matter."*

**William Wood** offers a respected transactional practice covering the acquisition, sale, development and financing of real estate. In the words of one source: *"He's a great lawyer. He's incredibly smart, very personable and he gives really solid, practical advice."*

## Leaders in Kansas

### **ANDEEL, Stanley G** *Featured in Corporate/M&A (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9532  
sandeel@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Andeel's practice includes taxation, health care, and estate planning, including joint ventures, business formations, divestitures, hospital matters, physician representation, trusts, and estates. He formed 100+ medical practices as Kansas professional corporations or LLCs and was lead lawyer in selling two businesses, each for more than \$100 million. Mr. Andeel has been named Wichita "Lawyer of the Year" by The Best Lawyers in America® in corporate and health care law.

**Professional Memberships:** American College of Tax Counsel Fellow; National Health Lawyers Association; Kansas Bar Association Executive Committee Section of Taxation, Past President; Wichita Estate Planning Council Past President

### **ARMSTRONG, James M** *Featured in Litigation (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9576  
jarmstrong@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Armstrong practices commercial and complex litigation, appellate, and employment and labor law. He has 40+ years experience in major commercial litigation including securities fraud and other shareholder and breach of fiduciary duty claims, oil and gas, intellectual property, employment, and general contracts, and has represented clients in major class actions and False Claims Act cases. Mr. Armstrong has been named by Best Lawyers® as Lawyer of the Year for Wichita Legal Malpractice Law - Defendants, Wichita Litigation - Intellectual Property, and Wichita Bet-The-Company Litigation, and a Litigation Star by Benchmark Litigation.

**Professional Memberships:** American Bar Association, Litigation Section

### **ARNEL, Kevin** *Featured in Corporate/M&A (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9761  
karnel@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Arnel, the firm's managing partner, has an extensive practice in tax-exempt organizations, real estate, business and corporate law, estate planning and probate, and senior housing and care. He advises a diverse group of public charities, private foundations, and similar organizations regarding formation, operation, real estate, and compliance. He also assists for-profit businesses with real estate transactions, including commercial and residential property leasing, acquisitions, and development. Mr. Arnel frequently counsels small business owners, family-owned businesses, and professionals on business issues and estate/succession planning. He was named 2017 Wichita Non-Profit Charities Law Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers®.

### **AYERS, Gary L** *Featured in Litigation (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9530  
gayers@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Ayers practices in commercial and complex litigation, intellectual property, health care, appellate law, and trade secret and noncompete litigation. He represents clients in state and federal lawsuits involving contract disputes, government investigations (Medicare, Medicaid, and Department of Defense), white-collar crime, restrictive covenants, trade secrets, trademarks, and the corporate practice of medicine. Mr. Ayers is listed in the Guide to The Leading U.S. Healthcare Lawyers, Missouri & Kansas' Super Lawyers, and The Best Lawyers in America®.

**Professional Memberships:** Kansas Association of Hospital Attorneys; American Association of Health Lawyers; Kansas Bar Association, Board of Governors and Executive Committee

### **BERNER, Donald** *Featured in Labor & Employment (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9738  
dberner@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Berner practices law in the areas of employment, labor, and immigration. He advises employers on workplace law, representing clients in employment-related disputes involving discrimination claims, wage and hour matters, labor relation issues, health and safety matters, and reduction in force issues in federal and state courts and various administrative agencies. Mr. Berner also works with businesses, organizations, and individuals on immigration and nationality issues. His immigration practice includes business immigration, family immigration, work authorization issues, and I-9 compliance. He has been recognized for employment and labor law and litigation by Best Lawyers®.

**Professional Memberships:** American Immigration Lawyers Association

### **BYERS, Boyd** *Featured in Labor & Employment (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9716  
bbyers@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Byers heads the firm's employment law practice. He represents clients in all aspects of employment relations and is known for finding practical solutions to workforce problems, establishing effective, compliant policies and practices, and navigating government audits. An active litigator, he has extensive experience handling employment-related class and collective actions and other complex litigation (including Title VII, ADEA, ERISA, FLSA, and NLRA). Mr. Byers was named 2017 Wichita Lawyer of the Year in Labor Law and 2015 Wichita Lawyer of the Year in Employment Law by Best Lawyers®.



## Leaders in Kansas

**Professional Memberships:** ABA, KBA (former Employment Law Section President)

**FOWLER, Jay** *Featured in Litigation (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita

316.291.9541

jfowler@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Fowler's trial practice emphasizes lawsuits involving commercial relationships including fiduciary duty and business torts. He handles complex commercial lawsuits, intellectual property and employment disputes, and he has tried high-exposure professional negligence cases. During Mr. Fowler's extensive, highly respected civil litigation practice in state and federal courts, he has taken 200+ jury cases to verdict and guided numerous mediations and arbitrations. He serves on the firm's executive committee.

**Professional Memberships:** American College of Trial Lawyers, Fellow and past State Chair; International Academy of Trial Lawyers, Fellow; Kansas Supreme Court Nominating Commission Member; Wichita Bar Association, former President

**HANISCH, Douglas** *Featured in Labor & Employment (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita

316.291.9748

dhanisch@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Hanisch, with a LL.M. in taxation, advises a diverse spectrum of clients regarding their employee benefit plans and practices. Areas of emphasis include retirement plans, group insurance plans, flexible benefits and cafeteria plans and nonqualified deferred compensation arrangements. Mr. Hanisch has been selected for inclusion in the Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers list, and The Best Lawyers in America® as a leading employment attorney in the US. In 2018, he was named the Wichita Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law Lawyer of the Year by The Best Lawyers in America®.

**Professional Memberships:** American, Kansas, and Wichita Bar Associations

**HURST, Christopher M** *Featured in Corporate/M&A (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita

316.291.9507

churst@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Hurst's practice focuses on taxation and M&A. He provides income-tax-minimization strategies for business transactions, including formation and restructuring of corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, acquisitions and dispositions. Mr. Hurst structures mergers and acquisitions, private debt and equity transactions, advises on federal and state tax, and represents clients in tax disputes. His practice includes drafting tax provisions and tax-sharing agreements, and advising on governance, joint ventures,

strategic partnerships, licensing, and executive compensation. He was named 2017 Best Lawyer of the Year in Wichita for tax law by Best Lawyers®.

**Professional Memberships:** American College of Tax Counsel Fellow

**JORDAN, Jeffery A** *Featured in Litigation (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita

316.291.9513

jjordan@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Jordan, who serves as general counsel to the nearly 90-lawyer firm, practices in a variety of commercial and complex litigation matters including, trade secrets, non-competes, shareholder derivative claims, anti-trust, contract disputes, creditors' rights, UCC litigation, product liability, construction disputes, professional malpractice, oil and gas, property tax valuations, and cattle- and feedlot-related disputes.

**Professional Memberships:** American, Kansas, and Wichita Bar Association; Wichita Bar Association Ethics and Grievance Committee, Chair

**Career:** Foulston Siefkin LLP - 1985-Present

**Publications:** Co-Author, Chapter 9, Kansas Ethics Handbook (2nd Edition 2009)

**Personal:** University of Kansas School of Law, JD 1985; Editor, Kansas Law Review

**LACEY, Jason P** *Featured in Labor & Employment (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita

316.291.9756

jlacey@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Lacey, who serves on the firm's executive committee, practices primarily in the areas of income taxation, ERISA, employee benefits, and executive compensation. He represents both employers and service providers with respect to all aspects of employee benefit plan administration and compliance, with particular focus on self-insured health plans and consumer-directed plans. He is a fellow in the American College of Tax Counsel, a member of the ABA Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, and a contributing author and seminar speaker for Thomson Reuters/EBIA. He was named 2017 Wichita Employee Benefits Law "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers®.

**NOLAN, Andrew J** *Featured in Corporate/M&A (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita

316.291.9542

anolan@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Nolan leads the firm's taxation group, handling business and corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, and real estate

## Leaders in Kansas

law. Working primarily with family and closely held businesses, he represents corporations, LLCs, partnerships, developers, investors and principals in matters including corporate restructuring, M&A, entity formation, tax planning, and real estate transactions. He closes complex real estate deals, crafts tax-deferred, forward and reverse like-kind exchanges, reviews titles and survey documentation, and negotiates leasing, lending, and financing arrangements. He was named Lawyer of the Year for Wichita Tax by Best Lawyers®.

**Professional Memberships:** Kansas Bar Association, Tax Law Section, Executive Committee

**OLIVER, James D** *Featured in Litigation (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Kansas City

913.253.2145

joliver@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Oliver practices in commercial and complex litigation, primarily in appellate courts, and leads the firm's appellate practice. His experience includes securities and corporate finance, antitrust and trade regulation, business and corporate, franchising, torts, environmental and administrative/regulatory law. He has served as counsel in 100+ Kansas state-court appeals and 30 in the Tenth Circuit, and as special assistant attorney general in appellate cases for Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico.

**Professional Memberships:** Fellow, American Academy of Appellate Lawyers; Chairman, Kansas Supreme Court Admissions Review Committee; Vice President, Tenth Circuit Historical Society; American Bar Foundation; Kansas Bar Foundation, past President

**RHODES JR., Forrest T** *Featured in Labor & Employment (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita

316.291.9555

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**Practice Areas:** Mr. Rhodes advises on employment and labor law and OSHA compliance, helping clients minimize risk and effectively address difficult employment situations. He counsels employers on development and review of employment policies, other preventative measures, labor-management issues, and safety and health compliance processes. Mr. Rhodes also defends employers in government audits and employment litigation. He frequently speaks on employment law, especially the complicated, evolving FLSA requirements. He has been named a Best Lawyer in Employment Law Management and Litigation - Labor and Employment by Best Lawyers®.

**Professional Memberships:** American Bar Association, Labor & Employment Section, Federal Labor Standards Committee

**ROGERS, David E** *Featured in Labor & Employment (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita

316.291.9708

drogers@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Rogers is a trial lawyer with more than 30 years' litigation experience, including product liability, medical malpractice, insurance defense, employment, and business cases in Midwest federal and state courts. He has represented national and international manufacturing and energy clients in high-exposure cases related to product liability, employment and labor law and arbitrated construction and labor disputes. Mr. Rogers was recognized by Best Lawyers® as 2016 Wichita Product Liability Litigation - Defendants "Lawyer of the Year" as well as by Benchmark Litigation as a Litigation Star.

**Professional Memberships:** Product Liability Advisory Council, Defense Research Institute Products Liability Committee

**RUPP, Anthony** *Featured in Litigation (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Kansas City

913.253.2127

trupp@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Rupp, partner-in-charge of the firm's Kansas City office, practices commercial litigation, health care, professional malpractice, and governmental liability law. He represents universities, corporations, hospitals, and municipalities in federal and state courts. Mr. Rupp prosecutes or defends preliminary injunction actions and has argued numerous appeals. His experience includes business disputes, truck accidents, trade secrets, and municipal liability.

**Professional Memberships:** Overland Park Chamber of Commerce board of directors, Public Policy and Advocacy Committee chair, law clerk for Hon. Dale Saffels, US District Court for Kansas, 1983-85

**Personal:** Mr. Rupp graduated magna cum laude from Creighton University School of Law.

**SHULDA, Teresa** *Featured in Labor & Employment (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita

316.291.9791

tshulda@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Ms. Shulda practices employment and labor law, including litigating employment disputes, counseling on compliance and litigation-avoidance tactics, and defending employers against claims of discrimination, wrongful termination, breach of contract, and whistleblower retaliation. She is recognized for her deep understanding of federal regulations, statutes, and Kansas employment laws, and frequently presents seminars to HR professionals. Ms. Shulda represents clients in federal and state courts, regulatory agency proceedings, and alternative dispute resolution forums. Ms. Shulda was recently named to Best Lawyers in America® in employment law management.

**Publications:** Kansas Employment Law Letter, Co-Editor

## Leaders in Kansas

### **SORENSEN, Harvey** *Featured in Corporate/ M&A (Kansas)*

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316.291.9774  
hsorensen@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Sorensen's practice areas include mergers and acquisitions, business and corporate law, private equity and venture capital, and taxation. He advises entrepreneurs and family-owned businesses through the life cycle of the business and their families. His practice also includes extensive M&A work for public and private companies, income tax planning, inter-generational tax planning, and economic development incentives. Mr. Sorensen has been named the Wichita Mergers & Acquisitions and Wichita Tax "Lawyer of the Year" by The Best Lawyers in America®.

**Professional Memberships:** American College of Tax Counsel, Fellow

### **STOUT, Mikel** *Featured in Litigation (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9516  
mstout@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Stout practices in commercial litigation, environmental, employment and labor, and mediation/dispute resolution. He handles employment and complex commercial cases, focusing on high-exposure litigation. One of Kansas' most well-known trial lawyers, Mr. Stout has tried many of the region's high-profile employment, environmental, and commercial cases. He has been named to Best Lawyers of America and Benchmark Litigation's Litigation Stars.

**Professional Memberships:** American College of Trial Lawyers, past President, Fellow and Board of Regents; Wichita Bar Association, past President; Kansas Bar Foundation, past President; Kansas Association of Defense Counsel, past President

### **THELEN, Trisha** *Featured in Labor & Employment (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9586  
tthelen@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Ms. Thelen practices in commercial and employment litigation, and counsels employers on handling disputes with employees. Representing clients in a range of industries, she has litigated in state and federal courts, AAA arbitrations, and offers extensive class action experience. Ms. Thelen also practices in privacy and data security law, advising on the best practices for electronic discovery and risk management related to cybersecurity. She was named to Missouri and Kansas Super Lawyers, and selected 2018 Wichita Construction Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers®.

**Professional Memberships:** Sedona Conference Working Group on Electronic Document Retention and Production

### **VOTH BLANKENSHIP, Patricia** *Featured in Real Estate (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9767  
pvoth@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Ms. Voth Blankenship leads the firm's real estate, energy and environmental team and practices in commercial real estate and wind energy. She supports her real estate clients in mergers and acquisitions; the development of commercial sites and larger mixed-use projects; commercial leasing for both landlords and tenants; and commercial property financing. Ms. Voth Blankenship additionally represents developers and landowners in wind energy projects involving large-scale real estate developments with complex project real estate documents, plus permitting, regulatory, tax, power transmission and sale, and financing matters.

**Professional Memberships:** American College of Real Estate Lawyers, member; Kansas Bar Association, Title Standards Committee

### **WARTA, Darrell** *Featured in Litigation (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9514  
dwarta@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Warta practices commercial and complex litigation, product liability, and professional malpractice law. With 45+ years successfully trying civil lawsuits throughout Kansas, Mr. Warta is lead trial counsel, specializing in defending high-exposure personal injury, product liability, and professional liability jury trials. Mr. Warta is a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and has been selected for inclusion in the Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers® list and The Best Lawyers in America®.

**Professional Memberships:** American College of Trial Lawyers, Fellow; Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel; Kansas Association of Defense Counsel; American, Kansas and Wichita Bar Associations.

### **WOOD, William** *Featured in Corporate/M&A and Real Estate (Kansas)*

Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita  
316.291.9772  
bwood@foulston.com

**Practice Areas:** Mr. Wood leads the firm's general business practice. His practice focuses on business law, corporate practice and real estate law. Mr. Wood represents public and private companies in mergers and acquisitions, real estate, securities transactions, franchising, private equity transactions, venture capital investments, financing, contract negotiations, creation and termination of business entities, business entity ownership and general business issues. He was named Wichita Mergers & Acquisitions Lawyer of the Year by The Best Lawyers in America®.

**Professional Memberships:** Kansas Bar Association, Corporate Banking & Business Law Section, executive committee past president



## FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP

## THE FIRM

**Managing Partner:** Kevin J. Arnel  
**Number of partners:** 65  
**Number of other attorneys:** 23

**FIRM OVERVIEW:** Foulston Siefkin LLP is the largest and one of the oldest law firms in Kansas, tracing its origins to 1919. Today, the firm has 88 attorneys and has offices in Wichita, the state's largest city; Topeka, the state's capital; and Kansas City, a leading center for commerce in the Midwest. Foulston Siefkin is the only Kansas member of Lex Mundi, Employers Counsel Network, and State Law Resources.

## MAIN AREAS OF PRACTICE:

**Administrative & Regulatory:** The firm represents companies before the Kansas Corporation Commission, the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission and other agencies.

**Appellate:** Foulston Siefkin attorneys have a reputation for incisive legal writing and determined advocacy. The firm has been counsel of record in more reported federal and state cases in Kansas than any other firm. The team includes a fellow of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers.

**Banking, Financial Services & Bankruptcy:** Foulston Siefkin is experienced representing lenders, financial institutions and other creditors in lending transactions, disputes, securities issues, loan enforcement, creditors' rights and bankruptcy litigation.

**Commercial & Complex Litigation:** The firm handles every variety of commercial litigation from the simple contract dispute to complex litigation, including class action, qui tam and white collar criminal defense cases. The litigation group includes six members of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

**Construction:** Foulston Siefkin attorneys assist construction industry clients with a wide range of construction projects, from conception through completion and any dispute resolution.

**Employment & Labor:** More than 20 employment law attorneys advise and represent employers in the full range of issues arising from the employer/employee relationship. The firm's labor lawyers are experienced in responding to union organizing efforts, representing employers in unfair labor practice proceedings and negotiating collective bargaining agreements.

**Energy:** Foulston Siefkin attorneys understand the complex issues

## OFFICES

## KANSAS

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involved in the oil and gas, electric, ethanol, biofuel and biomass, wind and nuclear sectors, and provide services in the areas of exploration, financial and commercial transactions, purchase and sales, operational production issues, title matters, leasing, marketing, transportation, regulatory compliance, and litigation.

**Environmental & Water Rights:** Foulston Siefkin is experienced in all areas of environmental law; related toxic tort litigation, regulatory and transactional areas and water rights issues in Kansas. The firm's attorneys have relationships with regulators and consultants on local, state and national levels. The team includes a Charter Fellow of the American College of Environmental Lawyers.

**Franchise:** The firm has represented local, regional and national franchisors, franchisees and franchise associations, including some of the best-known franchise names in the full range of franchise law issues.

**General Business:** The firm has experience in representing a diverse range of business clients, ranging from industry-leading companies to private equity firms to sole proprietors, working with local, state, regional, national and international transactions. This wide-ranging perspective allows the firm's attorneys to deliver creative and resourceful solutions to business matters.

**Health & Senior Care:** The firm's health law and senior care practice groups are experienced in handling complex government regulations and investigations and are knowledgeable in Kansas and federal health care matters, including the Stark law, fraud and abuse and tax laws.

**Insurance Defense:** Foulston Siefkin's insurance defense attorneys have decades of experience and one of the most active trial practices in the region, defending medical malpractice actions,

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product liability and personal injury claims.

**Mergers & Acquisitions:** The firm's depth and experience in the structuring, financing and successful completion of acquisitions, divestitures, joint ventures and other business transactions offers a comprehensive resource for complex business transactions.

**Real Estate:** Foulston Siefkin's real estate attorneys provide legal services on all types of real estate transactions. Real estate clients include developers, investors, lenders, borrowers, sellers, purchasers, landlords, tenants, landowners, businesses and entrepreneurs. The team includes a member of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers.

**Taxation & Employee Benefits:** The team helps individuals and businesses interpret and apply the rules of ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code and state laws. Foulston Siefkin's taxation services include representation before the IRS, Kansas Department of Revenue and other taxing authorities and agencies, including all matters of tax litigation. Eight team attorneys hold an LL.M in taxation.

**Clients:** The firm represents a broad range of clients, including major financial institutions, corporations, public utilities, insurance companies, healthcare providers, manufacturers, franchisors and franchisees, agricultural and natural resource producers and processors, professional entities, construction companies and contractors and service providers. Clients include: Aeroflex, Wichita, Inc., American Adoptions, Athene USA, Bank of America, N.A., The Boeing Company, Bombardier Aerospace Learjet, Cargill Incorporated, Cargill Protein, Catholic Diocese of Wichita, City of Overland Park, Cobalt Boats, The Coleman Company, Inc., Commerce Bank, Cox Communications, Delta Dental of Kansas, Inc., EDF Renewable Energy, Envision, Inc., Freddy's Frozen Custard, LLC, Galichia Medical Group, P.A., Hays Medical Center, Hopkins Manufacturing Corporation, ICM, Inc., Intrust Bank, KCAMP, Kansas Health Foundation, Koch Industries, Inc., Larksfield Place, Meritrust Credit Union, NueHealth Systems, Schaefer Johnson Cox Frey Architecture, Spirit AeroSystems, Inc., Stolz Management Corporation, Stormont-Vail HealthCare, Inc., The IMA Financial Group, Inc., TransPacific Oil Corp., University of Kansas, Via Christi Health System, Viega LLC, Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce, Wichita State University and WoodSpring Suites.