

100% Club Spotlight: Brown and Carlson

By: Elizabeth Chambers-Brown and
Suncica Sejdinovic

Elizabeth Chambers-Brown is a Shareholder who has been with Brown & Carlson since 2010. Suncica Sejdinovic is an Associate Attorney who has been with the firm since 2016.

“The power I exert on the court depends on the power of my arguments, not on my gender.”

-Justice Sandra Day O'Connor



Standing: Elizabeth Chambers-Brown, Autumn Capelle Hoag, Penny F. Helgren, Kathryn M. Perlinger, Paula A. Larson, Tracy M. Borash
Seated: Kristin Driscoll Nervig, Carrie I. Jacobson, Gina M. Uhrbom, Kathryn L. Babb
Not Pictured: Julie A. Williams, Suncica Sejdinovic, Erica A. Weber, Elizabeth Holden Hill

Brown & Carlson was founded in 1992. Our vision was to build a law firm that would provide high-quality, collaborative and pragmatic workers' compensation defense representation to companies in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Twenty-five years later, Brown & Carlson has grown to become the largest workers' compensation defense firm in the State of Minnesota - with 29 attorneys, most of whom practice primarily in the area of workers' compensation defense.

Brown & Carlson's success is based not only on the quality of our legal representation but on the personalities of our attorneys and staff and our relationships with our clients. We seek to attract attorneys who have a solid work ethic and are engaging and enthusiastic about their work. We also understand the importance of achieving a work-life balance and recognize that our long-term success as a law firm is not based solely on the number of hours we bill but on our reputation in the community. We strive to create a law firm environment where people want to work and succeed in their practice. This results in very little turnover of our attorneys and staff, which in turn helps us to build long-standing relationships of trust with our clients.

Brown & Carlson is also committed to promoting diversity in the workplace. 25% of our equity shareholders are women. Of our 29 Attorneys, nearly 50% are female. Additionally 67% of our support staff is female. Our senior female attorneys actively mentor newer female attorneys to encourage their personal and professional growth in their practice areas. We are proud that Brown & Carlson creates an environment which encourages women to succeed. We

encourage our female attorneys and staff to pursue training and marketing opportunities to help them advance. We also allow our attorneys and staff flexibility in their work schedules in order to meet the needs of their families while maintaining their legal practice.

Brown & Carlson has extensive experience representing clients at every level of the Workers' Compensation court system, from handling Administrative Conferences at the Department of Labor & Industry, hearings at the Office of Administrative Hearings, jury trials in District Court, to cases before the Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals and the Minnesota Supreme Court. We represent our clients pre-litigation, and at every phase of the litigation, through the end of the appeal phase to the Minnesota Supreme Court.

Although workers' compensation defense is the majority of our practice and our central focus, Brown & Carlson also has attorneys who practice in other areas, representing insurance companies and their insureds in all types of claims arising out of automobile accidents, including claims arising from third-party, liability, Uninsured motorists, Underinsured motorists; and Personal Injury Protection (No-Fault). Attorneys at Brown & Carlson also have experience in pursuing the subrogation rights of our insurance clients. One area of particular expertise at Brown & Carlson is the recovery of workers compensation benefits paid as a

result of third-party liability. Brown & Carlson understands that pursuing a successful subrogation recovery requires a somewhat different approach than defending cases. Successful pursuit of subrogation recoveries requires that our attorneys act aggressively and efficiently in a manner that moves the claim forward, while ensuring the maximum "net" recovery for our insurance clients. We also have experience advising and assisting in employment law matters, employer liability, insurance coverage disputes, products liability and casualty losses.

Our membership in the Minnesota Women Lawyers 100% Club is very special to the firm, as it reflects Brown & Carlson's philosophy of promoting equality and diversity among its attorneys. We are proud of our history and will continue to support and promote our women attorneys as they progress in their professional careers. ■

For more information about Brown & Carlson P.A. please visit our website at <http://www.browncarlson.com>.