

People



**Sara A. Brubaker**

Partner, Litigation  
Commercial Disputes

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Sara Brubaker’s practice focuses on complex commercial, real estate, and construction litigation with an emphasis on contract and business disputes, including franchisor-franchisee disputes and intellectual property disputes. Prior to joining Akerman, Sara interned with the in-house counsel department of a Fortune 500 international conglomerate, gaining valuable experience that has informed her emphasis on litigating efficiently to minimize costs.

Sara represents plaintiffs and defendants in single-plaintiff, multi-plaintiff, and complex class action litigation before state and federal courts. Sara has experience litigating cases through trial and appeal as well as filing amicus curiae briefs in state and federal appellate courts. Sara is well versed in e-discovery, having managed large data collections, reviews, and productions on behalf of her clients.

**Notable Work**

**Commercial Litigation:** Represented a limited liability company and member in multi-million dollar dispute involving claims of misappropriation, breach of fiduciary duty, judicial dissolution and other business torts through a trial victory and subsequent appeals.

**Intellectual Property Litigation:** Represented a software startup in a dispute involving alleged misappropriation of trade secrets and tortious interference with customer relationships; prevailed on a Daubert motion to exclude economic damages expert, which significantly reduced the potential damages from more than \$43 million to less than \$1 million and resulted in a favorable settlement for her client.

**Franchisor-Franchisee Disputes:** Represented, through trial, regional subfranchisor who brought claims against franchisee for breach of contract, fraud, and negligence.

**Appeals:** Represented commercial tenant in favorable appeal of landlord-tenant dispute that turned on illegality of lease based on a

**Areas of Experience**

Commercial Disputes  
Litigation  
Franchise and Licensing  
Hospitality

**Education**

J.D., University of Virginia School of Law, 2013, *Virginia Journal of International Law*, Articles Editor; Dillard Fellow  
B.S., University of Florida, Journalism, 2010, cum laude  
B.A., University of Florida, Anthropology, 2010, cum laude

**Admissions**

**Bars**

Florida

**Courts**

U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida  
U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Florida

**Related Content**

Seventeen Akerman Partners Named to *Benchmark Litigation's* 40 & Under List  
September 09, 2024

Akerman Hosts 2024 Franchise Business Network Global Summer Summit  
July 23, 2024

New FTC Rule Spares Non-Compete Clauses That Bind Franchisees, But Bans Most “Worker” Non-Compete Clauses  
April 26, 2024

Florida Supreme Court decision from 1919.

## Published Work and Lectures

- 2022 Denver Franchise Business Network Conference, Moderator, “Panel of the Pros – Operating Multiple Brands in an Ever-Changing World,” July 15, 2022
- National Business Institute, Presenter, “Collection Law from Start to Finish,” August 10, 2017
- Lorman Education Series Webinar, Presenter, “Florida Mortgage Foreclosures,” December 7, 2016
- Boot Camp: Foreclosure and Loan Workout Procedures, Speaker, “The Foreclosure Process” and “Receivership,” August 2014

## Honors and Distinctions

- *The Best Lawyers in America*, 2021-2022, Listed for Commercial Litigation and Litigation – Construction as “One to Watch”
- *Benchmark Litigation*, 2024, Named to the “40 & Under” List
- *Super Lawyers* Magazine, 2022-2023, Listed in Florida as a “Rising Star” for Business Litigation