



Thomas P. Berra, Jr.

Member, General Counsel

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Tom Berra is a seasoned litigator and trusted firm leader, known for his strategic counsel in high-stakes disputes and his commitment to professional ethics and community service.

Tom serves as Practice Group Leader for the Products Liability Defense Litigation practice group at Lewis Rice. He is an experienced litigator who regularly handles complex commercial and employment litigation, real estate disputes, class actions, non-compete and trade secret cases, products/toxic tort matters, and general business disputes. Tom appears before state and federal courts and administrative agencies in Missouri, Illinois, and across the United States, and has extensive experience in alternative dispute resolution. In addition to litigation, he provides ongoing counsel to clients on day-to-day employment and business issues.

Tom is also well-versed in the legal needs of private social and athletic clubs, having advised numerous nonprofit organizations in this space throughout his career.

As a respected attorney at Lewis Rice, Tom serves on the Firm's Management Committee and as the Firm's General Counsel. In this role, he advises the firm and its attorneys on professional ethics, risk management, and related professional responsibility matters. He has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® from 2013 to 2026 and in *Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers*® from 2013 to 2021.

Earlier in his career, Tom served as prosecuting attorney for the cities of Town & Country and Kirkwood in St. Louis County, where he prosecuted hundreds of criminal and housing cases and tried dozens of matters in municipal and county courts. He has continued to handle state and municipal criminal matters to successful resolution.

Tom is deeply engaged in the St. Louis community and holds leadership roles in several nonprofit organizations. He is a graduate of the 2003–2004 *FOCUS St. Louis Leadership Program*, which recognizes individuals who demonstrate exceptional leadership and community commitment. He currently serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees at St. Louis University High School and has long served on its Alumni Board. Tom is also a former President of the Board of Governors for both the Racquet Club of St. Louis and Greenbriar Hills Country Club in Kirkwood, Missouri.

Services

- Complex Litigation
- Class Action
- Environmental, Chemical & Toxic Tort
- Labor & Employment
- Products Liability
- Professional Liability

Education

- University of Notre Dame School of Law (J.D., 1992)
 - Shaheen Fellow
 - Dean's List
- Tufts University (B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1989)
 - Political Science and History
 - Houston Political Science Award; Dean's list, all semesters
 - NCAA Soccer
 - Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity

Legal Background

- Prosecuting attorney, City of Kirkwood (1994 - 1996)
- Prosecuting attorney, City of Town & Country (1993 - 1994)

Professional Affiliations

- American Bar Association, Litigation Section
- Committee on Employment and Labor Relations Litigation, American Bar Association
- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis
- Lawyers Association of St. Louis
- Defense Research Institute

Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- Eastern District of Missouri, U.S. District Court
- Western District of Missouri, U.S. District Court
- Central District of Illinois, U.S. District Court
- Northern District of Illinois, U.S. District Court
- Southern District of Illinois, U.S. District Court
- District of Kansas, U.S. District Court
- Northern District of Indiana, U.S. District Court
- Southern District Court of Indiana, U.S. District Court
- Northern District of Oklahoma, U.S. District Court
- Northern District of Florida, U.S. District Court
- Eastern District of Wisconsin, U.S. District Court
- Missouri Bar
- Illinois Bar

Charitable & Civic Involvement

- Board of Trustees, St. Louis University High School (2015-present; Chair 2025-present);

Vice Chair 2022-2025)

- Alumni Board of Directors, St. Louis University High School (1992-present)
- Board of Directors, Old Warson Country Club (2024-present)
- Board of Governors, Racquet Club of St. Louis (member 2017-2023; Secretary 2017-2019; Vice President 2020-2021; President 2022-2023)
- Board of Governors, Greenbriar Hills Country Club (member 2003-2007, 2009; President 2007; Club Counsel 2012-2022)
- Former Home Owners Association Trustee and President

Firm Committees

- Member, Management Committee
- General Counsel

Distinctions

- FOCUS St. Louis Leadership Program, Class of 2003-2004