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J.D., Northwestern University
School of Law, 1997

B.A., University of Wisconsin,
Madison, 1994, Phi Beta
Kappa

JONATHAN A. STRAUSS – PARTNER

Jon joined Flynn, Gaskins & Bennett, L.L.P. in June 2002, after working at Dorsey & Whitney L.L.P. for five years. He has successfully litigated numerous matters in a wide variety of areas including products liability, commercial law, construction law, environmental law, government contract bid protests, securities law and insurance defense. Jons product liability practice has involved inspections, testings, depositions and trial work related to complex, sophisticated products. He also has had a number of pro bono successes, including assisting to free an individual from death row in Texas and helping several debtors discharge their onerous student loans in bankruptcy court. He is currently representing victims of the I-35W bridge collapse on a pro bono basis. Over the course of his practice, Jon has represented his clients in state and federal courts throughout the United States.

Representative Experience :

Cleary v. Honeywell, Supreme Court of New York, 2003: Obtained summary judgment dismissal for temperature controller manufacturer in scald case.

Allstate Insurance Co. v. Empire Comfort Systems, Inc., State of Minnesota District Court, 2003: Successfully defended furnace manufacturer in products liability trial.

Siemens Transp. Systems, Inc. v. Metropolitan Council, 2001 WL 682892 (Minn. Ct. App. June 19, 2001): Fought off bid protest in trial regarding light rail vehicles in Minneapolis.

Reynolds v. Pennsylvania Higher Educ. Assistance Agency, 425 F.3d 526 (8th Cir. 2005), cert. denied, Educational Credit Management Corp. v. Reynolds, 127 S.Ct. 46 (2006): Won trial and two appeals resulting in discharge of debtors student loans. See [Jonathan Strauss is Honored for Pro Bono Service](#). As a result of Jon's work on this case, he was awarded the Raeder Larson Public Service Award by the Minnesota State Bar Association.

AEI Net Lease Income and Growth Fund XX Limited Partnership v. Anthony R. Alvarez, 2001 WL 710587 (Minn. Ct. App. June 26, 2001): Successfully argued before state appellate court in commercial landlord collections dispute.

Guy v. Cockrell, 343 F.3d 348 (5th Cir. 2003): Defended Texas defendant in federal habeas appeal, eventually resulting in his removal from death row.

Professional Recognition :

2007 recipient of the Raeder Larson Public Service Award from the Bankruptcy Section of the Minnesota State Bar Association. This award recognizes outstanding service to the public through pro bono legal services and honors the recipient's dedication to a system providing equal justice for all.

"Up & Coming Attorneys" Award – One of 10 selected by *Minnesota Lawyer* for 2002

Rising Star – Selected by *Minnesota Law & Politics* for 2002, 2003, 2007 – 2009

Memberships :

Hennepin County Bar Association
Board of Directors, 2003 – 2010
Co-Chair, Litigation Committee, 2004 – 2006
Chair, Finance and Planning Committee, 2007 – 2008

Hennepin County Bar Foundation
Board of Directors 2009 – present
Treasurer (Presidential track) 2010 – 2011

Minnesota State Bar Associations

Assembly Member, 2004 – 2008, 2010
Legislative Committee, 2004 – 2006
General Policy Committee, 2006 – 2008, 2010
Speaker – Bankruptcy Section October 1999 – Student Loan Discharges

Court Admissions :

State of Minnesota, 1997
U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota, 1997
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, 1999
Supreme Court of the United States, 2006

Civic Involvement :

Member, Jewish Community Relations Council/Domestic & Civic Affairs
Commission – 2000

Treasurer, Dan Rogan for Robbinsdale City Council – 2004

Adjunct Professor, William Mitchell College of Law, Business Practicum 2008