

DEBORAH M. THARNISH

DEBTHARNISH@DAVISBROWNLAW.COM



CONCENTRATION

Deb is a senior shareholder of the Davis Brown Law Firm. Deb has a general practice in but not limited to Business Litigation and Employment Law. She was a member of the firm's Board of Directors from 1996 through 1999, serving as the firm's first female president in 1998 and 1999. She is currently a member of the firm's finance and budget committees.

SUMMARY

Her business litigation includes contract and business tort cases and real estate assessment appeals. Her employment practice includes advising employers to prevent employment-related problems and defending all types of discrimination claims, wrongful termination claims, and restrictive covenant cases.

She also deals with real estate assessment appeals and handles adoptions for families.

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

- AV® Preeminent™ rated by Martindale-Hubbell. An AV certification mark is a significant rating accomplishment - a testament to the fact that a lawyer's peers rank him or her at the highest level of professional excellence.
- *Chambers USA*, Litigation: General Commercial, Iowa Ranked Band 1; Labor and Employment Law, Iowa Ranked Band 2, 2015
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Litigation - Labor & Employment
- *Best Lawyers'* 2015 "Des Moines Bet-the-Company Litigation Lawyer of the Year"
- *Best Lawyers'* 2012 "Des Moines Litigation - Labor & Employment Lawyer of the Year"
- 2014 Super Lawyers Business Edition, Business Litigation
- *Great Plains Super Lawyers*, Business Litigation
- *Benchmark Litigation Top 250 Women in Litigation*, 2013
- Fellow of the Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers
- Arabella Mansfield Award Recipient

MEMBERSHIPS

- Litigation and Labor and Employment Law sections of the Iowa State Bar Association
- Member of Iowa State Bar Association Trade Regulation Council
- Previously served on the Board of the Iowa Defense Counsel
- Previously served on District 5C Judicial Nominating Commission
- Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute

COMMUNITY

Deb has served as the president of the board of directors of the Iowa State University Alumni Association, Iowa Legal Aid, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Greater Des Moines, Hawthorn Hill and the Des Moines Public Library Foundation. She has previously served on the boards of the Polk County Volunteer Lawyers Project and the St. Mary of Nazareth Parish Council. Deb is currently on the boards of the University of Iowa Law School Foundation, Iowa Legal Aid Foundation, and Anawim Housing.

PERSONAL

Deb and her husband, Nicholas Roby, have a blended family of seven children.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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FAX: 515-243-0654

BORN
DES MOINES, IOWA

EDUCATION
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY (B.A., 1977); UNIVERSITY OF IOWA (J.D., WITH HIGH DISTINCTION, 1980); ORDER OF THE COIF; IOWA LAW REVIEW

ADMITTED TO BAR
1980, IOWA

AREAS OF LAW
ANTITRUST LAW

BUSINESS LITIGATION

EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR
RELATIONS

FAMILY LAW AND DOMESTIC
RELATIONS

INSURANCE DEFENSE

LITIGATION AND APPEALS

REAL ESTATE LITIGATION

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

MEMBERSHIPS
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

DEFENSE RESEARCH
INSTITUTE (DRI)

IOWA ACADEMY OF TRIAL
LAWYERS

IOWA DEFENSE COUNSEL
ASSOCIATION

IOWA ORGANIZATION OF
WOMEN ATTORNEYS

IOWA STATE BAR
ASSOCIATION

POLK COUNTY BAR
ASSOCIATION

POLK COUNTY WOMEN
ATTORNEYS

