



**Bill Padgett utilizes vigorous and targeted early pre-trial management and motion practice to defend leading companies in cases involving agricultural products, prescription and over-the-counter drugs, and specialty chemicals. Bill maximizes client strengths and leverages pressure points throughout the case management process in order to resolve serious claims as quickly and cost-effectively as possible, while positioning the case — with all its moving parts — for trial if needed.**

With a complex litigation practice that is national in scope, Bill's experience is deep and far-reaching. He represents clients against product liability, toxic tort, and commercial claims involving chemical products, pharmaceuticals, agricultural and crop protection products, medical devices, and a variety of other products. Bill's practice primarily includes complex and large scale litigation, including multidistrict litigation (MDLs) involving the defense of pharmaceutical and toxic tort personal injury lawsuits brought against product manufacturers, as well as commercial claims involving product defect, non-performance and conspiracy allegations.

Bill leads and assists several national defense teams in defending manufacturers and distributors of crop protection products, pharmaceuticals, chemicals/solvents, medical devices, and other products in toxic tort, product liability and commercial litigation throughout the United States. In this capacity, he has prepared causation and liability defense strategy and expert lineups based on the applicable science, led legal defense teams through expert discovery, motion practice, and trial work, and addressed manufacturer and distributor conspiracy claims, federal preemption, and a wide variety of other product liability issues under numerous state laws. Bill is also well-versed in economic loss doctrine and various warranty defenses as part of his commercial litigation practice, and has worked with the firm's environmental attorneys in an array of litigation matters.

Notably, Bill advises clients on business practices intended to avoid product liability and commercial claims, including in the areas of

## William E. Padgett

### Partner

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### EDUCATION

Indiana University-Bloomington, (J.D.),  
cum laude, 1995

Wabash College, (B.A.), magna cum  
laude

### BAR ADMISSIONS

Indiana

### COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh  
Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third  
Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Northern  
District of Indiana

U.S. District Court for the Southern  
District of Indiana

### LANGUAGES

English

### PRACTICES

Administrative

Arbitration/Alternative Dispute Resolution

Commercial Litigation

Construction

Consumer Class Action Defense

Contract Litigation

Drug and Medical Device

Environmental Litigation

Food, Drug and Device Law

occupational health and safety, product advertising and warranty practices. Regardless of the obstacles before him, Bill is appreciated for delivering experienced, effective and fiscally responsible advocacy and comprehensive dispute resolution strategy.

He has completed the firm’s BT ValueWorks’ Legal Project Management (LPM) training on LPM techniques to enhance value for clients.

**Professional and Community Involvement**

Member, Defense Research Institute (DRI) Toxic Tort and Environmental Law Committee

Board member, Mental Health America of Indiana

Former board president, The Julian Center

Former board member and board president, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Pro bono family law cases for battered women Mentor, Starfish Initiative

**Honors**

The Best Lawyers in America, 2015-2024

Insurance Recovery and Counseling  
Litigation  
Product Liability and Mass Torts  
Toxic Substances and Other Torts  
UCC Litigation

**INDUSTRIES**

Agriculture and Food  
Energy and Utilities  
Life Sciences