



Attorneys

Sara J. Ackermann
Steven M. Anderson
Matthew J. Cornetta
James F. Harrington
Russell W. Wilson
Kevin E. Wolf

Paralegal
Kelly W. Behnke

Of Counsel
Douglas J. Klingberg

LITIGATION & DISPUTE RESOLUTION: ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

In 1993 the Wisconsin Supreme Court adopted a rule (Wis. Stat. § 802.12) authorizing circuit courts to use specified means of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) in appropriate cases. For decades, Ruder Ware litigators have creatively sought solutions to matters ranging from straightforward to complex. As seasoned trial lawyers, our litigators understand litigation. As business advocates and astute problem solvers, our attorneys realize the benefits of working in tandem with clients to achieve their goals.

ADR is a constantly evolving approach to resolving legal disputes. Our litigators have substantial experience guiding clients through various forms of ADR and frequently draft ADR claims in contracts to prospectively manage potential contract disputes. Mediation and arbitration are actively used by our litigators in commercial and residential construction and real estate disputes (including adverse possession) and debtor-creditor, shareholder, and estate disputes. Most recently, one of our attorneys completed the certified civil mediation skills training by the Minnesota Bar Association.

Our litigators can guide you through the following ADR services:

- **Arbitration.** This technique offers both parties an opportunity to express their disputes in writing and have the matter reviewed by an arbitrator or panel of arbitrators. This technique offers a legally binding result subject to appellate review. Arbitration can be less complex and time intensive than a full trial—meaning the matter is resolved faster and less expensively for the client.
- **Mediation.** This technique is a nonbinding process in which a neutral mediator assists the parties in exploring settlement alternatives. Mediation is often court-ordered and helps parties to settle legal disputes without the expenses and risk inherent to a trial.

As part of a full-service law firm, our attorneys provide clients with a one-stop approach to their legal needs. Ruder Ware, the largest Wisconsin law firm headquartered north of Madison, also provides legal counsel in Business Transactions; Employment, Labor & Benefits; and Trusts & Estates. ◆

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Legal Services Offered by Ruder Ware

Business Transactions

- Antitrust & Trade Regulation
- Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights
- Business Organizations
- Commercial Contracts
- Corporate Finance & Securities
- Executive Compensation & Employee Benefits
- Intellectual Property
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Real Estate & Construction

Employment, Labor & Benefits

- Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation
- Employment Law
- Labor Law

Litigation & Dispute Resolution

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Commercial Litigation
- Employment Litigation
- Environmental Litigation
- Preventative Litigation Services
- Products Liability Litigation
- Real Estate & Construction Litigation

Trusts & Estates

- Asset Protection Planning
- Elder Law
- Estate Planning
- Family Business Succession Planning
- Fiduciary Services
- Probate & Trust Administration

Focus Teams

- Banking & Financial Institutions
- Local Governments & Municipalities
- Professional Responsibility for Attorneys
- Schools & Educational Institutions