FORDHARRISON

COREY L. FRANKLIN

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Corey Franklin is the Office Managing Partner of FordHarrison's St. Louis office and serves as Co-Chair of the firm's Labor Relations and Manufacturing Industry practice groups. His legal practice is focused on the representation of management in labor relations issues and employment law disputes.

As a senior labor and employment attorney with more than two decades of experience, Corey counsels employers, public agencies, and major institutions on complex labor-management relations and federal labor law. He advises clients on all aspects of labor strategy, including high-stakes National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) proceedings, collective bargaining, administrative litigation, and workforce governance.

Corey has extensive experience handling unfair labor practice matters, representation elections, strike preparation and crisis response, workplace investigations, contract administration, and labor-related regulatory compliance. Nationally recognized for leadership in labor relations, he is frequently published and quoted in national legal reporting, business media, and industry publications for expertise on federal labor policy, NLRB enforcement trends, administrative law challenges, and the practical impact of regulatory changes on employers. He is also consulted by journalists and industry analysts for perspective on high-profile labor issues and emerging legal developments.

A trusted advisor to large corporations, small businesses, non-profits, and public-sector entities, Corey is known for sound judgment, practical and balanced legal analysis, and a proven ability to guide diverse institutional stakeholders through politically sensitive and high-risk environments.

Representative Experience

- Represent employers in high-stakes NLRB proceedings, including unfair labor practice matters, representation petitions, and appellate litigation.
- Serve as lead negotiator in collective bargaining for

EDUCATION

- University of Missouri - Columbia School of Law (J.D., 2002)
- Miami University (B.A., 1999)

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Missouri
- Illinois

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana
- U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the

manufacturing, healthcare, transportation, construction, warehouse/distribution, and public safety workforces.

- Counsel unionized employers regarding labor relations, contract administration, and bargaining strategy.
- Advise both unionized and non-union employers regarding compliance with extant local, state, and federal regulatory requirements.
- Provide counsel during periods of regulatory transition and changing NLRB doctrine, facilitating policy development and ensuring operational continuity and risk mitigation.
- Advise public-sector clients, including municipalities and transportation agencies, on labor governance, crisis management, strike preparation, and dispute resolution.
- Conduct internal investigations, workplace assessments, compliance reviews, and rapid-response campaigns in union organizing environments.
- Manage complex employment litigation, including restrictive covenant, wage and hour, discrimination, retaliation, and whistleblower matters.

Honors & Awards

- *The Best Lawyers in America* - Labor Law - Management, and Litigation - Labor and Employment (2018-2027)
- "Missouri Rising Stars," *Super Lawyers* magazine (2010-2017)

Memberships

- The Missouri Bar
- Labor and Employee Relations Association
- Labor Relations Advisory Committee
- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, Labor & Employment Law Chair (2010-2011)
- St. Louis County Bar Association
- Mary Queen of Peace Finance Council
- St. Louis Metro Collegiate Baseball League Board of Directors

News & Insights

- SourceBook - Co-Editor, FordHarrison's Labor & Employment Law Sourcebook, Joint Employment, Independent Contractors and Staffing Issues

Northern District of Texas

FIRM LEADERSHIP

- St. Louis Office Managing Partner
- Management Group
- Labor Relations Practice, Co-Chair
- Manufacturing Industry Group, Co-Chair

- November 05, 2025 - "9th Circ.'s Rejection Of NLRB Challenge Highlights Split," Law360
- August 21, 2025 - Two St. Louis-Based FordHarrison Attorneys Listed in the 2026 Best Lawyers in America and Two Listed in Ones to Watch
- August 27, 2024 - "Floodgates Are Open On NLRB Constitutionality Challenges," Law360
- August 15, 2024 - Two St. Louis-Based FordHarrison Attorneys Listed in the 2025 Best Lawyers in America and Two Listed in Ones to Watch

Events

- December 03, 2026 - Managing the Modern Workplace Seminar 2026 - St. Louis, MO
- September 29, 2026 - Conflux Co-Learning 2026 Industrial Readiness Summit - St. Louis, MO
- April 21, 2026 - Conflux 2026 Workforce Development Summit - St. Louis, MO
- December 11, 2025 - Managing the Modern Workplace Seminar - St. Louis, MO
- September 30, 2025 - Conflux Co-Learning 2025 Industrial Readiness Summit: Employment Law + Transitional Workforce - St. Louis, MO

Offices

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  Chicago, Illinois 60601