

GRAVES GARRETT GREIM NEWS

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Graves Garrett Greim Announces New Partners, Counsel

Graves Garrett Greim LLC (GGG) is pleased to announce Aaron Craig and Joe McGroder have been promoted to partner, and Chandler Carr has been named counsel with the firm. All three began those roles effective May 1, 2024.

"Aaron, Joe, and Chandler have all distinguished themselves as valuable contributors to the firm," partner Nathan Garrett said. "They have earned trust and respect not only from their colleagues within the firm but also within the wider legal community as formidable and accomplished litigators. These new roles underscore our firm's ongoing commitment to professional development."

A seasoned litigator with more than a decade of experience in private practice, Craig joined GGG in 2023 and continues to curate a proven track record of success in complex civil litigation, including in product liability, class-action, and general tort matters.

Prior to entering private practice, Craig clerked for Judge Gary Fenner in the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri. He completed his undergraduate studies at Missouri State University and earned his law degree from Creighton University School of Law.



Aaron Craig



Joe McGroder



Chandler Carr

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SCOTT JOINS GGG AS ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY

GGG is pleased to announce Michael J. Scott joined the firm as an associate attorney.



Michael J. Scott

Scott focuses a diverse private practice on free speech and election law in addition to complex commercial litigation matters. He benefits from a strong background in government and politics, having served as a regional representative and legislative liaison for the Missouri Secretary of State's Office under Jay Ashcroft after being a field director during his 2016 campaign. Mike also previously completed internships with the Hon. Thomas Chapman in the Missouri Court of Appeals for the Western District and the Platte County (Missouri) Prosecutor's Office, in addition to a stint at the Republican National Committee in 2015.

Most recently, Scott's legal work in private practice included representing both plaintiffs

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KCBJ selects Greim to prestigious “20 to Know” in Legal list for 2024



Eddie Greim

Graves Garrett Greim partner Eddie Greim recently earned inclusion in the Kansas City Business Journal's “20 to Know” list for the legal industry. This regular feature focuses on introducing readers to emerging leaders to know in key business industries and categories.

“Greim is experienced at handling commercial litigation, free speech and election law, internal investigations and whistleblower claims. But his work on election cases is most prominent,” the publication noted in a profile.

Greim maintains an influential and respected national practice in commercial litigation and election law. His free speech and election law experience has included numerous constitutional challenges to election and campaign finance laws, representation of clients in state and federal ethics and campaign finance enforcement actions and investigations, initiative petition drafting and litigation, litigation and advice regarding First Amendment protections for petition circulation, representation of not-for-profit clients before state regulators, and advice on campaign and election law compliance. ■

NATHAN GARRETT REPRESENTS WHISTLEBLOWER IN FCA MATTER SETTLED FOR MORE THAN \$12 MILLION



Nathan Garrett

Graves Garrett Greim LLC (GGG) is pleased to announce the U.S. Department of Justice has intervened in and settled a lawsuit the firm filed in the Northern District of Texas. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of a client against a medical device manufacturer and two of the company's executives for paying illegal kickbacks to spine surgeons in an effort to influence the use of the company's products. The settlement agreement requires the company to pay a total of \$12 million plus attorney fees to resolve allegations of False Claims Act (FCA) violations.

The firm represented the whistleblower, legally referred to as the “relator” in FCA (a/k/a “Qui Tam”) actions. Per federal law, a significant portion of the civil settlement will be paid to GGG's client for bringing forth the fraud allegations involving Medicare and other federal payors.

GGG partner Nathan Garrett, who has represented relators and defendants in FCA cases across the nation, has played a prominent role in prosecuting and defending numerous multimillion-dollar federal whistleblower cases over the past 15 years, building off of his experience as a former FBI agent and federal prosecutor and helping establish the firm's national reputation in this exceptionally complex and unique area of law.

This particular lawsuit centered on improper financial benefits to orthopedic surgeons and neurosurgeons in an effort to induce them to use the company's spinal implants, devices and other equipment in medical procedures the physicians performed on Medicare beneficiaries over a period of nearly a decade. The improper payments were alleged to include consulting fees, intellectual property acquisition and licensing fees, registry payments and performance shares in the company, as well as travel to a luxury ski resort, all in violation of the federal Anti-Kickback Statute, which prohibits offering or paying anything of value to induce referrals of items or services covered by federally funded programs. The statute is intended to ensure that physician judgment is not compromised by improper financial incentives. ■

GGG ANNOUNCES NEW PARTNERS, COUNSEL

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McGroder has extensive experience in both civil and criminal law, with his practice concentrated primarily in the area of white collar criminal defense. McGroder joined the firm after graduating from the University of Kansas School of Law, and he represents individual and corporate clients facing high-stakes investigations and prosecutions.

McGroder's civil practice includes complex, often high-profile commercial and constitutional litigation and managing internal investigations for corporate and individual clients.

Carr joined GGG in 2021 and has continued to maintain and develop a strong private practice focused on general business and commercial litigation. He represents plaintiffs and defendants at the trial and appellate levels in complex civil litigation matters ranging from contract disputes to class actions.

Carr has also accrued significant experience in insurance coverage litigation in courts across the country, representing corporate and individual policyholders in a wide range of industries and involving all types of coverage. He has experience advising public and private hospitals, physician groups, home health organizations, and other healthcare entities on corporate, transactional, and regulatory issues. He completed his undergraduate studies at Calvin University and later earned his law degree from the Pritzker School of Law at Northwestern University. ■



Summer Associate Class Features 3 Talented Aspiring Attorneys

Graves Garrett Greim LLC was pleased to welcome Jason Bagley, Brett Mordecai, and Fatima Towakoli as part of the annual summer associate program, which gives participants the valuable opportunity to spend 10 weeks working with attorneys in a range of practice areas while receiving training, mentorship, and exposure to clients and meaningful casework.

"We take very seriously the ability to help develop and influence the next generation of attorneys and continue the advancement of the legal profession," GGG partner Lucinda Luetkemeyer said. "In particular, our firm offers a specific combination of complex commercial litigation, high-stakes white collar defense, and leading-edge constitutional advocacy that gives law students an excellent opportunity to explore unique and important practice areas."

A native of Maryville, Missouri, Bagley earned his undergraduate degree in political science with a minor in constitutional democracy from the University of Missouri. He enters his second year at the University of Missouri School of Law, where he is an active member of Phi Alpha Delta's Lawson Chapter.

Bagley previously completed internships with U.S. Senator Roy Blunt, Missouri Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe, and Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey.

Mordecai, who hails from Kearney, studies at the UMKC School of Law and is a member of the Federal Bar Association, Federalist Society, and Christian Legal Society. He earned his undergraduate degree in political science from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, where he competed for the Mountaineers wrestling team and earned a long list of distinctions.

Towakoli is currently pursuing her law degree at Arizona State's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, where she is heavily involved in organizations including the Women Law Students Association. She has also been selected as a member of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Team, in addition to receiving the opportunity to participate in the law school's Post-Conviction Clinic.

Prior to entering law school, Towakoli spent time as a research assistant for the Kansas City (Missouri) Police Foundation, an intern for the Kansas City (Missouri) Board of Police Commissioners, and a paralegal with both a law firm and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She completed her undergraduate studies at UMKC with a double major in criminal justice & criminology and political science with minors in Spanish and international relations. ■

GRAVES GARRETT GREIM'S WHITE COLLAR CRIMINAL DEFENSE & GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS PRACTICE REMAINS HIGHLY RANKED IN ANNUAL CHAMBERS GUIDE

Graves Garrett Greim (GGG) is pleased to announce the firm maintained high-profile recognition as the leader for White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations in Missouri. In the 2024 Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business guide, GGG was one of only three firms in the state to receive a top-level distinction in that practice area.

Additionally, GGG partners Todd Graves, Nathan Garrett, and Lucinda Luetkemeyer were all ranked as individual attorneys for their work in the same practice area. Only 17 attorneys in the state received this honor.

In the guide, clients told Chambers USA the following about the firm and the attorneys:

- "(Graves Garrett Greim) provides excellent communication and guidance."
- "Nathan Garrett has a command of the legal system and provides excellent leadership and guidance for his team."
- "Todd Graves is extremely knowledgeable, engaging, and appropriate in time management."
- "Lucinda is spectacular. She is highly intelligent and effective."





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SIX ATTORNEYS GARNER DISTINCTION IN MISSOURI & KANSAS SUPER LAWYERS

Graves Garrett Greim is pleased to announce six of the firm's attorneys earned recognition in the most recent edition of Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers. Partners Todd Graves and Nathan Garrett and of counsel attorney James Humphrey were honored as "Super Lawyers," and notably, Garrett also made the Top 100: Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers Top List, which honors leading practitioners on both sides of the state line.

Additionally, GGG partner Lucinda Luetkemeyer and associates Matthew Mueller and Paul Brothers made the "Rising Stars" list. Mueller and Brothers were first-time honorees.

No more than 5% of the lawyers in Missouri and Kansas are selected as Super Lawyers, and no more than 2.5% of the lawyers receive the Rising Stars distinction. Super Lawyers recognizes the top lawyers in every state annually through a multiphase selection process. The mission of Super Lawyers is to bring visibility to those attorneys who exhibit excellence in their legal practice.

Graves has been selected for the honor for the past 18 consecutive years and Garrett has been recognized 14 years straight. Humphrey (11 years) and Luetkemeyer (eight years) also maintained their distinctions.

Super Lawyers, part of Thomson Reuters, is a rating service for attorneys from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. The annual selections are made using a patented multiphase process that includes a statewide survey of lawyers, an independent research evaluation of candidates, and peer reviews by practice area. The result is a credible, comprehensive, and diverse listing of exceptional attorneys.

The Super Lawyers lists are published nationwide in Super Lawyers magazines and in leading city and regional magazines and newspapers across the country. ■

SCOTT JOINS GRAVES GARRETT GREIM AS ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY

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and defendants in commercial litigation, with specific experience in breach of contract, products liability, construction, noncompete, and trade secret disputes. This involved handling all phases of the litigation process, from inception to resolution, with a focus on comprehensive case management and strategy development and execution. He also managed transactional needs such as drafting and negotiating operating agreements and asset purchase agreements, demonstrating his versatility.

"In the current political environment, Graves Garrett Greim continues to see demand from clients facing litigation, prosecution, or investigations related to elections, campaign finance, and free speech," GGG partner Eddie Greim said. "Mike's background provides

clients with an additional resource for creatively litigating and resolving disputes."

Scott earned his law degree from the University of Kansas School of Law after completing his undergraduate studies in international communications and Russian at the University of Iowa and obtaining a master's in global media communications while studying at the University of Melbourne in Australia. While in law school, he served as president of the University of Kansas' chapter of the Federalist Society.

In addition, Scott completed an internship for a law firm in Barcelona, Spain, and developed experience handling legal matters for clients in multiple foreign languages, particularly Spanish. ■