

Reputation & Crisis Management

Free speech was never limited to compliments and unfortunately words do hurt. There is no perfect science to reputation management, but to cover your ears and eyes and repeat “no comment” again and again will do more harm than good. Our attorneys understand what drives negative publicity and the boundaries that govern what is fit for print according to journalistic standards versus what constitutes as defamation.

Our attorneys assist clients in all industries in crisis and reputational management, mitigation and preservation. We have been handling reputation and crisis management for more than two decades. We know the terms of use, patterns and algorithms of social media, and we know the various tactics of those who exploit these platforms in order to disparage businesses and professionals.

We use a tempered balance of calculated responses, education and cease-and-desist demands to control the narrative and stifle the speech of those using false narratives to ruin reputations. We draft statements, press releases, and act as a liaison to the press or naysayers to help control the narrative and mitigate further damage. We serve demand letters and represent clients seeking recourse for an unlawful reputational attack, as well as defend those who express constitutionally-protected opinions but are sued by someone looking to censor their speech. We’ve defended countless print, online and on-air media entities, reporters and publications in such cases.

Experience

Won a Defense Verdict for a Milwaukee Alderman Facing Claims of Defamation and Tortious Interference

Successfully Defended a Physician Against Defamation Claims and False Allegations of Sexual Misconduct

Successfully Defended a Homeowner Against Defamation Claims Brought by a Candidate for Condominium Board President

Won Summary Judgment Motion for Commercial Landlord Against Defamation Claims by a Former Tenant

Represented a Woman After Her Ex-Boyfriend Publicly Shared Explicit Images of Her

PROFESSIONALS

Max Goodman
Partner

Ryan B. Jacobson
Partner

\$7.6 Million Dollar Verdict for a Chicago Executive after an Ex-Girlfriend Shared Explicit Images on Social Media

Firm News

Subscribe to Amundsen Davis's Litigation Nation Podcast for the latest legal updates!

Firm News, February 10, 2023

Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included in the 2023 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars List

Firm News, *Amundsen Davis*, January 23, 2023

In the Media

Max Goodman and Ryan Jacobson Recognized for Representation and Victory in Online Defamation Case

Media Mention, *Reason Magazine*, June 7, 2023

Alerts

What to Do if You Are Defamed on Social Media

Article, *Amundsen Davis Reputation & Crisis Management Alert*, October 4, 2023

Defamation or Permitted Political Speech: Illinois Courts Weigh in on Negative Campaign Ads

Article, *Amundsen Davis Reputation & Crisis Management Alert*, November 2, 2022

Illinois Law Empowers Victims Violated by the Sharing of Explicit Images

Article, *SmithAmundsen Litigation alert*, September 28, 2022

Responding to Negative Online Posts about Your Business

SmithAmundsen Hospitality Alert, November 3, 2020

Events

Protect Your Reputation from Bad Publicity: Cancelling Cancel Culture Speaking Engagement, Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, May 10, 2023

Cancelling Cancel Culture: How to Safeguard Your Reputation

SmithAmundsen; Webcast, September 15, 2021

Blog Posts

How to Combat Negative Publicity During COVID-19

Labor & Employment Law Update, September 9, 2020

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