



**Daniel J.
Lachat**
Partner



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Practice Area

- Arbitration
- Automobile Accident Defense
- Personal Lines (Premises Liability)
- Subrogation
- Transportation Defense

Daniel J. Lachat came to the law the way many great trial lawyers do, by watching it happen. As a law student at Drake University Law School, he sat in courtrooms observing trials and worked in legal clinics long before he ever carried a caseload of his own. After graduating, Dan began practicing law in 1988, gaining experience representing both corporate and individual defendants in a wide range of matters and forums. That early, hands-on exposure taught him something that has stayed with him ever since: trial work demands a diverse set of skills, and those skills translate to nearly every challenge life puts in front of you.

That belief still drives how Dan practices today. His approach to law revolves around the belief that good communication, preparation, and creativity lead to the best outcomes for his clients. Just as important to Dan is the experience his clients have throughout the process. He wants them to understand where their case stands and what comes next, and to feel confident in both the results and the experience of being represented.

Dan is equally comfortable in the courtroom, an arbitration hearing, or any other forum his clients need him in. He views the relationships he has built with his clients as far more than simple business transactions; it is imperative to him that they feel heard, supported, and well represented by Kopka Law Group.

Dan's commitment to service extends beyond his legal practice. For years, he served as a counselor and coach at Marquette Park Special Recreation, working with children and adults with disabilities. The experience taught him patience, humility, and the importance of meeting people where they are, lessons that continue to shape his approach to clients and colleagues.

Outside of the office, Dan enjoys exercising, traveling, and spending time on the water. A former football coach and lifelong student of football and hockey, he appreciates the strategy and preparation behind the game as much as what happens on the field or ice. He and his wife, Kathy, enjoy spending time with their three adult sons, Sean, Gavin, and Brendan.

Admissions

- Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Education

- Drake University Law School, Juris Doctorate, (1984-1988)
- Western Illinois University, Bachelor of Science (1982-1984)

Memberships

- Southwest Bar Association – Chairman
- Marquette Park Special Recreations - Counselor