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Sarah Sweet Partner

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Insurance Claim Defence Municipal Liability Police Law & Liability Shipping Automotive Railway

Sarah's diverse disputes and transportation practice focuses on insurance, municipal and police liability, and maritime and transportation law.

Sarah has experience in both insurance coverage and defence of insureds and insurers. She defends claims against municipalities, insurers and their insureds involving property damage, bodily injury, cargo loss, breach of contract, municipal and police liability, and professional negligence. Sarah also provides coverage advice on a wide range of policies, including cyber security, CGL, and environmental liability.

Sarah acts for clients in complex shipping and rail casualty matters, cargo claims, commercial disputes, bills of lading and contracts of affreightment disputes, ship arrest and sale, and cargo arrest. She also advises on transportation agreements, transportation regulatory matters, and transactions in a variety of transport modalities. She has also been appointed Vice-Chair to the Admiralty and Maritime Law General Committee, of the ABA Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section since 2020. Sarah is also the Vice President – Central Region for the Canadian branch of the Women's International Shipping and Trading Association (WISTA).

Experience

- Defends municipalities from various infrastructure maintenance and design claims, as well as municipal police services from claims alleging negligent investigation, malicious prosecution and Charter violations.
- Acts for insurers and private companies with respect to personal injury and property claims including occupiers' and product liability.
- Represents ship owners and P&I Clubs in actions involving domestic and international shipping.

Insights & Events

- Author, "Mother and Son Successful on Summary Judgment after Son's Head-On Vehicle Collision,", BLG Article, July 2019
- Author, "Competing "Other Insurance Clauses": Can One Trump the Other?", BLG Article, January 2019
- Author, "Stop Here, Not There: Court Of Appeal Comes To Seemingly Different Conclusions In Two Strikingly Similar Roadway Repair Cases", BLG Article, October 2018
- Author, "Negligent Investigation Claim Against Police Dismissed in Child Sexual Assault Case", BLG Article, January 2018
- Author, "Legislation Introduces Ban On Oil-Tankers On Canadian West-Coast", BLG Article, May 2017
- Author, "Swept Overboard: Federal Court Finds Undeclared On-Deck Carriage Did Not Prevent Carrier From Limiting Liability Under Hague-Visby Rules", BLG Article, May 2017
- Author, "Too close for comfort: Motion to strike bystander's claim fails", BLG Article, November 2023
- Author, "Court of Appeal confirms factors for determining compensable mental injury", BLG Article, May 2023
- BLG Talks Transportation, BLG Perspective, December 2021
- Business insurance trends: Climate change litigation, D&O risk, force majeure and transport insurance, BLG Perspective, October 2021
- Author, "Supreme Court gives guidance on "core policy" immunity", BLG Article, October 2021
- Supply chains in a post-pandemic world, BLG Perspective, June 2021
- Full steam ahead: Recent developments in maritime autonomous technology, BLG Perspective, February 2021
- Author, "Ontario passes Bill 218 to provide COVID-19 liability protection", BLG Article, December 2020
- 32nd Annual Maritime Law Seminar Webinar, BLG Video, December 2020
- Author, "Ontario proposes new bill to provide COVID-19 liability protection", BLG Article, October 2020
- The Sensor: Unfamiliar waters: Navigating autonomous vessels' potential and perils, BLG Perspective, July 2019
- Author, "Stop Here, Not There: Supreme Court Refuses Leave to Appeal in Two Roadway Repair Cases that are Seemingly at Odds", BLG Article, April 2019
- Author, "Saumur V. Antoniak: A Child's Failure to Look Both Ways Before Crossing the Street", BLG Article, November 2016
- Recent Legal Developments Summaries of Relevant and Recent Cases, BLG Video, October 2016
- Author, "An Educator's Guide to Welcoming Syrian Refugee Children", BLG Article, January 2016

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, Ontario Bar Association
- Member, Transportation Lawyers Association
- Vice-Chair, Admiralty and Maritime Law General Committee, ABA Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section, 2020-21

Community Involvement

• Volunteer, BLG Reads to Kids



Awards & Recognitions

• Recognized in the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in Canada as "Ones to Watch" (Maritime Law)

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 2016
- B. Sc. (Hons), Acadia University, 2012
- JD, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University, 2015

BLG | Canada's Law Firm

As the largest, truly full-service Canadian law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) delivers practical legal advice for domestic and international clients across more practices and industries than any Canadian firm. With over 725 lawyers, intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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