



Joanne T. Blackburn

Partner

7900 SE 28th Street
Suite 500

Mercer Island, WA 98040

joanne.blackburn@ropers.com

d (206) 316-9167

m (206) 245-7221

Joanne's practice focuses on defense litigation for businesses, including matters involving product liability, construction, insurance coverage, and broker and agency defense. She has successfully defended cases to verdict in Washington, California, and Alaska courtrooms. Joanne welcomes the opportunity to help her clients develop outside-the-box solutions designed to avoid protracted litigation. However, she is not new to stepping into the courtroom to defend her cases in jury trials. Joanne has a substantial product liability defense practice and has achieved successful outcomes at numerous trials in Washington, California, and Alaska. Joanne also believes in giving back to the NW community where she lives, donating time at many of her favorite charities, including FareStart and YWCA's Angeline's Kitchen.

PRACTICE AREAS

Construction

Insurance Services

Product Liability & Torts

Professional Liability

ACCOLADES

The Best Lawyers in America®, Insurance Law, 2013-2026

Washington State Super Lawyers,
Construction Litigation, 2004-2024

Martindale-Hubbell, AV Preeminent Women's
Lawyers, 2014

COURT ADMISSIONS

Alaska

California

Washington

US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

USDC: Eastern District of Washington

USDC: Western District of Washington

EDUCATION

JD, Notre Dame Law School, 1987

BA, University of California, Berkeley, 1984

Joanne was a past president of the Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL) and served on its board of directors for eight years. Joanne is also a past board member of the Defense Research Institute (DRI). She currently serves on the board of the Foundation for Washington State Courts, a bipartisan group that raises money for the Washington State Courts. Joanne has been an active member of the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel (FDCC) for over 23 years and has served the organization in numerous leadership roles, including as past chair of the Diversity Committee. She has presented on diversity issues for several organizations and regularly presents on critical challenges facing businesses, including speaking to members of the WDTL, DRI, FDCC, and ADTA.

Events

Joanne T. Blackburn Attended the FWSC Town Hall on Threats to the Judiciary

March 11, 2026

The meeting included a CLE program and reception that brought together members of the legal community, including representatives from both sides of the bar and the bench

Ropers Majeski Sponsored FWSC's Annual Fundraiser

June 05, 2025

Our Partner Joanne T. Blackburn, Secretary of FWSC, attended this important event, which featured King County Superior Court Judge Andrea Robertson, who spoke on the urgent need to improve courthouse safety

Joanne T. Blackburn Attended WDTL's Past Presidents' Lunch

May 21, 2025

We're proud to see Joanne continue to lead and support the legal community with her dedication and experience

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Member, Alaska Bar Association
- Chair, Member Engagement & Public Service Committee, Association of Defense Trial Attorneys (ADTA)
- Vice Chair, Extra Contractual Liability Section, Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC)
- Board Member, Foundation for Washington State Courts, 2017-present
- Member, King County Bar Association (KCBA)
- Member, Tacoma-Pierce County Bar Association (TPCBA)
- Former Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Association of Defense Trial Attorneys (ADTA)
- Co-Chair, Diversity Committee, Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC), 2021-2023
- Board Member, Washington Initiative for Diversity, 2017-2019
- President, Evergreen Chapter, National Charity League, 2012
- Board Member, Defense Research Institute (DRI), 2007-2011
- Board Member, FareStart, 2001-2010
- Board Member, Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL), 2000-2008
- President, Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL), 2003

Joanne T. Blackburn Attended the QLaw Foundation Falltacular

September 30, 2024

The event raised over \$63,000 to support the QLaw Foundation's LGBTQ+ Legal Clinic, community education and empowerment work, and its advocacy efforts for LGBTQ+ communities

Joanne T. Blackburn Proudly Participated in the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys 83rd Annual Meeting

May 02, 2024

On April 25th, Joanne joined fellow ADTA members at the Santa Fe School of Cooking to cook a meal to donate to a local shelter

Joanne T. Blackburn and Ropers Majeski Were Proud to Be a Part of the KCBA Annual Breakfast With Champions

King County Bar Association

May 10, 2023

Ropers Partner Joanne T. Blackburn attended the event

News

Twelve Ropers Majeski Lawyers Recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2026 in America

August 21, 2025

Congratulations to these outstanding lawyers for this recognition

Four Ropers Majeski Lawyers Recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2025 in America

August 15, 2024

Congratulations to these outstanding lawyers for this recognition

Joanne T. Blackburn Selected to 2024 Washington Super Lawyers List

July 31, 2024

Congratulations to our Partner, Joanne T. Blackburn, for receiving this honor

Four Ropers Majeski Lawyers Recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2024 in America

Best Lawyers®

August 17, 2023

Congratulations to these outstanding lawyers for this recognition

Joanne T. Blackburn Selected to 2023 Washington State Super Lawyers List

Super Lawyers

July 31, 2023

Congratulations to our Partner, Joanne T. Blackburn, for receiving this honor

Speaking Engagements

Todd A. Roberts and Joanne T. Blackburn Led FDCC Insurance Coverage Section Webinar on Efficient Proximate Cause Rule

April 01, 2024

The insightful presentation discussed the rule and the varied approaches taken by courts in its application

Joanne T. Blackburn Moderated a Panel for WDTL's Heart & Soul: A Master Class CLE with Past Presidents

March 12, 2024

Joanne facilitated a discussion on the current hot topics in mediations

Joanne T. Blackburn Was Proud to Be a Part of the Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Insurance Law Committee UIM Coverage Roundtable

December 01, 2023

Ropers Partner Joanne T. Blackburn joined the discussion on the state of coverage and bad faith claims

Joanne T. Blackburn in the WDTL 2023 Annual Insurance Law Update

Washington Defense Trial Lawyers

May 08, 2023

Ropers Partner Joanne T. Blackburn joined the presentation on Dec Action / Covenant Judgments / Reasonableness Hearings