



E. Kenly Ames

Partner

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Overview

Kenly Ames brings extra dimension to the firm with her experience in intellectual property law and business litigation. She formerly worked for Choate, Hall and Stewart LLP in Boston, Massachusetts.

Kenly enjoys the collegial atmosphere at ELPO. Attorneys often consult each other on cases and tap into each other's experience and networks to help solve problems for clients. "We bring a breadth of knowledge and areas in which we can help our clients and a depth of experience," Kenly said. "We're big enough to be able to handle most problems, but small enough that we still have strong personal relationships with our clients."

Kenly's big-city experience working as a judicial law clerk in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and in the litigation department of Choate, Hall & Stewart help make ELPO a frequent choice for out-of-state businesses and law firms that need Kentucky representation. Her education and experience

PRACTICE AREAS

- Business Litigation
- Intellectual Property Law
- Appellate Practice
- Corporate Law

help ELPO draw that business, as does the lower cost of ELPO versus larger firms. “We are well-suited to be local counsel for large companies not located here who find themselves in a legal dispute in Kentucky,” Kenly says. “We have good relationships with law firms all over the country, including firms in New York, Chicago, Washington D.C., Boston, Philadelphia, Atlanta, and Nashville. Doing a top-notch job as local counsel is really a matter of knowing the Kentucky courts and lawyers well, paying attention to detail and being available when lead counsel needs you, no matter how last-minute the request.”

Kenly focuses on resolving business disputes – both in court and out. “Some disputes have to be resolved in the courts,” Kenly says. “Others can be worked out without the expense of full-blown litigation. At ELPO, we listen to our clients, understand their priorities and consider all the available options.” Kenly’s practice has a particular emphasis on matters that involve trade secrets, non-competition/non-solicitation contracts, trademark and copyright infringement, licensing, Internet and unfair competition issues. Kenly also has experience in construction litigation, securities fraud litigation, class actions, complex insurance coverage litigation and reinsurance disputes.

Kenly is one of the few attorneys in Western Kentucky who regularly handles applications to register trademarks and copyrights. “Businesses invest heavily in building brands and developing products, services and marketing materials that consumers readily recognize. It makes good business sense to protect that investment by applying to register trademarks and copyrights, where possible, and by taking steps to prevent loss of trade secrets and other confidential information,” Kenly says. “It’s also important for businesses to defend their intellectual property against unauthorized use. That’s where I can help.”

Kenly and her husband are raising two sons and renovating a 100-year-old house in the downtown historic district. She enjoys her community volunteer commitments and her sons’ activities, and is grateful to be part of a firm that encourages both. “Bowling Green has proven to be a wonderful place to live,” Kenly says.

GOOGLE REVIEWS:

“I have worked with Kenly Ames at ELPO for probably close to 10 years and I recommend people to her regularly. She is very professional and also gives us clear and direct responses to our questions. I’ve also really appreciated how she often proactively checks on things that we may have forgotten about so that we

don't let important legal matters slip through the cracks." –

Richard Fontenot

"As a small business owner, proper and experienced legal representation is paramount to our success and sustainability. When our local family attorney introduced me to Ms. Ames at ELPO, I was apprehensive in dealing with a new attorney. But those quickly evaporated as I found Ms. Ames and the entire firm very professional, knowledgeable, and easy to work with. In a very short time, Ms. Ames has become my trusted advisor, whom I rely on for sound advice in all aspects of business across all of my companies. I highly recommend her to any business owner." – David Ogles

Credentials

Education

- Columbia University School of Law, J.D., 1994
- Columbia Law Review (Note Editor)
- University of Pennsylvania, B.A., summa cum laude, 1991
- Phi Beta Kappa

Admission

- Kentucky, 2003
- Massachusetts, 1997
- New York, 1995
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky
- U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts

Affiliations

- American, Kentucky and Bowling Green-Warren County Bar Associations
- Federal Bar Association, Kentucky Chapter (Past President)
- American Intellectual Property Law Association
- Past member of the Rules Committee of the Kentucky Supreme Court; Past Chair of the E-Rules Subcommittee
- Kentucky Bar Association, past member of the Board for the Civil Litigation Section
- International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), Member, 2020-2025

Community Involvement

- Capitol Arts Alliance (Former Director)

- United Way of Southern Kentucky (Former Director)
- Community Action of Southern Kentucky, Foster Grandparents Advisory Council (former member)
- Leadership Bowling Green, 2004
- Leadership Kentucky, 2010
- United Way of Southern Kentucky, Grant Allocations Volunteer (2009 - present)

Insights

News

- Eight ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2026 Super Lawyers. One Named Rising Star
- ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized in the 32nd Edition of The Best Lawyers in America©
- Seven ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2025 Super Lawyers. One Named Rising Star
- ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers in America® and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America.
- Seven ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2024 Super Lawyers; One Named Rising Star
- Ten ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America© 2024; Five Named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch
- Eight ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2023 Super Lawyers; One Named Rising Star
- Nine ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized as Best Lawyers 2023; Five Named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch
- Eight ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2021 Super Lawyers; One Named Rising Star
- Seven ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized as Best Lawyers 2021; Three Named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch
- Seven ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2020 Super Lawyers; Two Named Rising Stars
- Best Lawyers Ranks Seven ELPO Law Attorneys for 2020
- Kenly Ames to Moderate KBA Program
- Kenly Ames to attend LEGUS fall meeting
- Best Lawyers ranks 6 attorneys for 2019
- Best Lawyers ranks ELPO for 2018
- Best Lawyers ranks five attorneys for 2018
- Best Lawyers ranks firm for 2017
- Best Lawyers ranks five attorneys for 2017
- Kenly Ames examines Kentucky standard for civil lawsuits in latest Bench & Bar
- Best Lawyers chooses five from ELPO for honors
- Best Lawyers ranks firm, attorneys for 2015
- Kenly Ames to attend LEGUS conference
- Super Lawyers chooses six from ELPO
- Kenly Ames working with group to take courts digital
- Five attorneys listed in The Best Lawyers in America
- Thirteen attorneys rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell
- Twelve ELPO attorneys rated AV
- United Way Committee includes two from ELPO

- Kenly Ames named chair of PMC
- Kenly Ames participates in Leadership Kentucky

Presentations

- **New Rules on Electronic Discovery.** January 16, 2007, Bowling Green, KY, sponsored by the Federal Bar Association, Kentucky Chapter. Presented with U.S. Magistrate Judge E. Robert Goebel.
- **Digital Practice: The Rules of Civil Procedure and the Discovery of Electronic Evidence.** June 21, 2007, Kentucky Bar Association Annual Convention, Louisville, KY. Presented with Justice (now Chief Justice) John D. Minton, Jr. of the Kentucky Supreme Court, U.S. Magistrate Judge James D. Moyer, and attorney James W. Herr.
- **Beyond Zubulake: Are the Risks of Sanctions Worth It When Dealing with E-Discovery Issues?** June 10, 2009, Kentucky Bar Association Annual Convention, Lexington, KY. This program was a mock oral argument on e-discovery issues. Chief Justice Minton presided. Presented with attorneys Bart L. Greenwald, Robert W. Dibert, Anita M. Britton, and John G. McNeill and with John Loveland, Managing Director, Navigant Consulting.
- **Ethics and E-Discovery Update.** October 7, 2010, Louisville, KY, sponsored by the Federal Bar Association, Kentucky Chapter, and the Louisville Bar Association.
- **Trade Secrets and Non-Competes.** June 22, 2017, Kentucky Bar Association Annual Convention, Owensboro, KY.