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**PRACTICE AREAS**

- Commercial Litigation
- Insurance

**BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS**

- State Court: Minnesota
- U.S. District Court: District of Minnesota
- U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals: Eighth Circuit

**EDUCATION**

- University of Minnesota Law School, J.D., 2016
- University of Minnesota Center for Bioethics, M.A., 2018
- Hampshire College, B.A., 2010

Akira's practice focuses on insurance coverage and defense, commercial and complex business litigation, property subrogation matters, and reinsurance disputes.

Prior to joining Zelle, Akira was a law clerk for the Honorable Patrick D. Robben, Hennepin County District Court. She attended the University of Minnesota Law School, where she represented clients in civil litigation matters as a student-attorney director of the Civil Practice Clinic and the Child Advocacy and Juvenile Justice Clinic. Before law school, Akira worked in the healthcare industry, primarily working with over a dozen pharmaceutical and biotechnology corporations to conduct national and international clinical studies. After that, she was an educator with Teach For America. She continues advocating for education as well as community-building initiatives throughout the Twin Cities.

languages

Spanish (Native Fluency)

English (Native Fluency)

French (Basic Proficiency)

**ARTICLES & PRESENTATIONS**

"Recent Developments in Property Insurance Coverage Litigation," *Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal*, Spring 2020, co-author

"New Appraisal Rules for Puerto Rico Property Insurers," *Insurance Law360*, February 7, 2019, author

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Twin Cities Diversity in Practice (Emerging Leader's Group)

Minnesota Women Lawyers

Minnesota State Bar Association

American Bar Association

Federal Bar Association