

## Biography of Sara Frankenstein

Sara Frankenstein is a private practice attorney and partner of Gunderson, Palmer, Nelson & Ashmore, LLP in Rapid City, South Dakota. Sara earned her B.A. and J.D. from the University of South Dakota. She served as Law Clerk to the Honorable Richard H. Battey, U.S. District Court, South Dakota in 2001 and 2002. She practices in the areas of voting rights and election law, general civil litigation, civil rights, employment law, and other civil areas. Sara is the city attorney for two towns, represents numerous counties and cities as requested, and defends cities, counties and school boards when they are sued. Sara frequently advises election administrators in the Midwest in all aspects of elections and voting rights. Sara was lead counsel in numerous federal Voting Rights Act cases and other election disputes, including the following:

- *Blackmoon v. Charles Mix County*, 505 F. Supp. 2d 585 (D.S.D. 2007).
- *Janis v. Nelson*, No. CR. 09-5019-KES, 2009 WL 5216902 (D.S.D. Dec. 30, 2009).
- *Cottier v. City of Martin*, 604 F.3d 553 (8th Cir. 2010).
- *Brooks v. Gant*, No. CIV. 12-5003-KES, 2013 WL 4017036 (D.S.D. Aug. 6, 2013).
- *Wandering Medicine v. McCulloch*, CV 12-135-BLG-DWM, 2014 WL 12588302 (D. Mont. March 26, 2014).
- *Poor Bear v. County of Jackson*, No. 5:14-CV-5059-KES, 2017 WL 52575 (D.S.D. Jan. 4, 2017).
- *SD Voice v. Noem*, No. 1:19-CV-01003-CBK, 3:19-CV-03010-CBK, 2020 WL 104385 (D.S.D. Jan. 9, 2020).
- *Strong v. Gant*, 2014 S.D. 8, 843 N.W.2d 357.
- *Ageton v. Jackley*, 2016 S.D. 29, 878 N.W.2d 90.

Sara has successfully argued before courts of appeal including the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals en banc (all eleven judges), and successfully briefed a Voting Rights Act petition to the United States Supreme Court. Sara serves on numerous boards and committees. The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights appointed Sara to a four-year term on the South Dakota Advisory Committee as the Vice-Chair, which reports to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Sara has been selected as a Super Lawyer for the last five years in the areas of Legislative and Governmental Affairs.