



ZACH HECHT

Associate Attorney

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Personal Introduction

Attorney Zachary Hecht is a licensed attorney in Iowa and Minnesota and admitted to practice in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa. He is an associate attorney at Causey & Ye Law, P.L.L.C., where he represents clients in criminal defense, civil litigation, family law, and immigration matters. Zach has built a reputation for providing diligent and client-focused representation, whether defending indigent clients through his contract with the State Public Defender's Office in Polk County or assisting private clients with complex cases in his various areas of practice. No matter who he represents, Zach understands the value of listening to his clients to understand them and what they wish to achieve.

Zach clerked for Causey & Ye Law for nearly two years before joining the firm as an associate attorney. He gained extensive courtroom and research experience under the supervision of lead counsel, Jonathan Causey, and managing partner, Yangyidi Ye, supporting clients across criminal defense, family law, immigration, and business-related matters. He also clerked for Judge Susan Cox of Iowa's 5th Judicial District, drafting judicial orders and conducting legal research in juvenile law cases.

Academically, Zach earned his Juris Doctor from Drake University Law School in 2022, where he was awarded the Iowa Supreme Court Scholarship and participated in the Drake Criminal Defense Clinic, representing clients charged with offenses such as assault, OWI, and drug possession. He completed his undergraduate studies at Iowa State University, graduating in 2018 with a B.A. in Political Science.

Specialties:

- Criminal Defense
 - Drug Crimes
 - OWI
 - Weapon Charges
 - Robbery & Amp
 - Burglary
- Crimmigration
- Immigration
 - Asylum and Related Hearings
 - Marriage-based Green Card
 - Employment-based Green Card
 - Change of Status
- Family Law
 - Mediations
 - Divorces
 - Custody Disputes
 - Termination of Parental Rights
- Civil Litigation
- Fraud and Asset Recovery

Memberships:

- Iowa State Bar Association
- Minnesota State Bar Association
- C. Edwin Moore Inn of Court

Achievements and Highlights

Professional Leadership Award by Chinese Association of Iowa

- In July 2024, Zach successfully defended a client charged with Burglary 2nd Degree, a Class B Felony. Through extensive pretrial motion practice and depositions, secured a plea deal to a simple misdemeanor, sparing the client a potential 25-year prison sentence.
- In June 2025, Zach tried a case in which his client was charged with Assault While Displaying a Dangerous Weapon, Harassment 1st Degree, and False Imprisonment, a possible five-year prison sentence. The jury returned a verdict finding the client guilty of two low-level misdemeanors, and client was ordered to probation.
- In August 2025, Zach tried a case in which his client was charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance—Methamphetamine. Zach successfully argued to the jury that his client did not possess the methamphetamine, and the jury acquitted his client of the charge.
- Zach prepared and supported clients through asylum interviews, naturalization interviews, and master hearings, providing guidance and ensuring their readiness for critical proceedings.
- Zach represented an immigration client in an individual hearing, arguing that the client should be granted a withholding of removal.
- Zach assisted clients with marriage-based and employment-based green cards, adjustment of status, and naturalization applications.
- Zach advised and defended non-citizen clients on the immigration consequences of criminal charges, navigating complex crimmigration issues.
- Zach prepared clients for naturalization interviews and other USCIS proceedings.
- Zach second-chaired a federal civil trial involving breach of contract against a Fortune 500 company, assisting with trial preparation, witness examination, and trial briefs.
- Zach second-chaired a state civil trial for personal injuries that occurred from a faulty street design, assisting with evidence review, trial briefs, and witness examination.
- Zach has represented parents whose children had been removed from their home by the State of Iowa, successfully working with the parents to get their children returned in a timely manner.
- Zach has extensive experience with representing clients accused of violating probation conditions, no contact orders, and harassment restraining orders.
- Zach has assisted clients in both Minnesota and Iowa with expungement petitions, corporate formation, and litigation involving charges such as sex trafficking and prostitution.