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The Minnesota Appellate Update - November 20, 2026

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by Andrew Brantingham, Liz Kramer, Alex Hake, Daniel Wassim, and Alexandra Wood

Dorsey & Whitney is pleased to debut the Minnesota Appellate Update, a regular series highlighting noteworthy Minnesota appellate decisions relevant to our clients and their businesses. As with our U.S. Supreme Court Updates, the summaries will be short and focused on the case's holding.

We invite your feedback on this new initiative. And, as always, our experienced appellate attorneys stand ready to help clients navigate every stage of the appellate process, from strategy and briefing through oral argument.

Minnesota Supreme Court

Anderson v. City of Minneapolis (A24-1082): In a case of first impression, the Court held that common-law official immunity, which bars damages claims arising from public officials' discretionary acts, does not bar claims seeking solely prospective declaratory or injunctive relief.

The case arose from a suit by Minneapolis residents alleging that the City inadequately addressed code violations in under-resourced neighborhoods, causing racially disparate impacts in public services in violation of the Minnesota Human Rights Act and Minnesota Constitution. Justice Hennesy wrote the unanimous opinion for five members of the Court; Chief Justice Gaïtas and Justice Aligada did not participate in the decision.

Although Updates will not generally include who served as counsel for the parties, we are proud to report that Dorsey & Whitney represented the Minneapolis residents in this matter. While the residents' claims were dismissed in the lower courts, Dorsey attorneys successfully obtained reversal at the Minnesota Supreme Court.

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