

J. ROBERT BAZEMORE

Commercial Interior & Product Designer | Expert Witness

Principal Designer & Expert Witness
j robert bazemore llc

17 South Lancaster Road
Savannah, Georgia 31410

704.309.6740
bob@jrobertbazemore.com
www.jrobertbazemore.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Commercial interior and product designer with over 39 years of experience in contract furniture development, manufacturing coordination, and high-volume retail product systems.

Expertise spans the full lifecycle of product creation, including concept development, proportion analysis, engineering coordination, production oversight, procurement systems, and performance evaluation.

Specialized experience in the evaluation of seating systems incorporating adjustable and reclining mechanisms, with emphasis on structural performance under load, user interaction, and safety considerations including pinch points, entrapment hazards, and uncontrolled mechanical movement.

Extensive experience analyzing the relationship between design intent, engineering execution, manufacturing constraints, and real-world product performance. Provides structured, methodical expert opinions in matters involving furniture failure, product safety, design defect, authorship, and intellectual property disputes.

Professional background includes both commercial contract manufacturing and large-scale national retail product development for major distribution channels including Walmart and Dollar General, providing practical insight into durability standards, cost engineering, lifecycle expectations, and production scalability.

All opinions are grounded in direct industry experience and decades of hands-on involvement in product development, manufacturing collaboration, and performance evaluation.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Contract Furniture Design
Reclining and Adjustable Seating Systems
Furniture Failure and Structural Evaluation
Pinch Point and Entrapment Hazard Analysis
Seating Performance Under Occupied Load Conditions
Hospitality and Outdoor Furniture Systems
Mechanical Component Interaction and Failure Modes
Product Authorship and Intellectual Property
Design Development Process Evaluation
Manufacturing Collaboration and Engineering Interface
Commercial Furniture Performance Standards
Lifecycle Durability and Environmental Exposure
Specification and Procurement Systems
Design Intent Versus Engineering Execution
Deposition and Trial Testimony

EXPERT WITNESS EXPERIENCE

Provided expert services in matters including:

Structural failure of seating systems and furniture assemblies
Lofted bed collapse and structural performance evaluation
Commercial and hospitality seating failure, including reclining and adjustable mechanisms
Pinch point and entrapment injury analysis
Product design authorship and intellectual property disputes
Design development process and manufacturing responsibility evaluation

Services have included:

Document and evidence review
Failure mode and causation analysis
Evaluation of sudden versus progressive structural failure
Analysis of user interaction during adjustment and repositioning
Deposition testimony
Trial testimony

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal Designer

j robert bazemore llc
Savannah, Georgia

Leads commercial interior and product design initiatives across contract furniture and institutional markets. Directs design development from concept through production, including coordination with engineering teams and manufacturing partners.

Evaluates product performance, structural behavior, and lifecycle durability, with particular focus on seating systems, mechanical components, and products subject to repeated public use and environmental exposure.

Director of Product Development

Huisen Furniture

Directed development of over 500 consumer and retail product programs distributed through major national retailers including Walmart and Dollar General.

Oversaw cost engineering, materials selection, structural performance standards, packaging systems, and international manufacturing coordination.

Developed practical expertise in real-world product performance, including repeated use conditions, environmental degradation, assembly variability, and long-term durability.

Senior Product & Interior Designer

Commercial Manufacturers

Collaborated with manufacturing teams on contract furniture systems and lighting products for commercial markets.

Directed product proportioning, materials evaluation, engineering coordination, and production review, including seating systems and mechanically adjustable components.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Bachelor of Science in Interior Design
Winthrop University

Winthrop University Design Center named in recognition of contributions to design education and professional practice.

EXPERT WITNESS FEE STRUCTURE – 2026

(See attached Fee Schedule and Terms)

LITIGATION POSITIONING STATEMENT

Expert analysis focuses on how design intent translates into manufactured reality, particularly in products incorporating structural systems, moving components, and user interaction.

In seating-related matters, this includes evaluation of load paths, connection detailing, mechanical behavior, and whether the product safely accommodates foreseeable use conditions such as adjustment while occupied.

Analysis includes identification of pinch points, entrapment zones, and conditions where uncontrolled or unintended movement of components creates a hazard to the user.

Many disputes arise at the intersection of design, engineering, manufacturing, and maintenance. Evaluation is centered on reconstructing that relationship through documentation review, physical evidence, industry standards, and lifecycle performance expectations.

Background across both commercial contract systems and high-volume retail production provides a comprehensive foundation for evaluating product behavior across hospitality, institutional, and consumer environments.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERT WITNESS CASES

J. Robert Bazemore
Commercial Furniture & Product Development Expert

CURRENT & RECENT ENGAGEMENTS

Mary Nugent, et al. v. Asmayda Furniture Group LLC, et al.
Adjustable Outdoor Hotel Lounge Chairs
Role: Product design and engineering evaluation
Status: Current (2025)

James Anderson v. Top Shelf Sports Lounge, et al.
Furniture Design & Safety
Role: Design and safety standards analysis
Status: Selected (2025)

Erin Bartolomei v. Hilton
Hotel Shower Design
Role: Design and performance review
Status: In Progress (2024–2025)

Malgorzata Bolek-Gawin v. White Plains Kensington LLC, et al.
Outdoor Furniture Installation – Product Failure & Building Code
Role: Product failure and code-related analysis
Status: Selected (2024)

Kristen Ballas v. Production Glue LLC
Furniture Design – Product Failure
Role: Structural and development review
Status: Selected (2024)

Ameritu Trading Company
Copyright Infringement
Role: Design authorship and intellectual property evaluation
Status: Completed (2024)

IN PROGRESS ENGAGEMENTS

Pam Sawchyn v. TBD

Bleacher Design

Role: Design and structural review

Status: In Progress (2024)

Mary Pike, et al. v. Lifetime Productions, Inc., et al.

Product Design and Engineering

Role: Engineering interface and development process analysis

Status: In Progress (2024)

Paul Kaczmarek v. Camatic, et al.

Engineering

Role: Product engineering and structural evaluation

Status: In Progress (2024)

PRIOR SELECTED ENGAGEMENTS

Lawrence Weiss v. Westfield World Trade Center, et al.

Seating Design – Bench Failure

Role: Structural performance and failure causation analysis

Status: Selected (2023)

Josephine St. Dizier v. Louisiana Tech University

Bed Frame Design – Lofted Dormitory Bed Failure

Role: Structural design and failure evaluation

Status: Selected (2023)

HISTORICAL ENGAGEMENTS

Stratosphere Casino

Personal Injury – Testimony for the Defendant

Role: Expert testimony

Status: Completed (2016)

BJI Holdings

Chair Failure – Deposition Testimony for the Plaintiff

Role: Deposition testimony

Status: Completed (2012)
