

Thomas G. McNeill

Trial and Litigation Experience and Professional Resume

Dickinson Wright, PLLC

Partner 1990-2022, Associate 1984-89

Early Life Capitol Hill experience:

U.S. Capital Tour Guide

U.S. Senate Page

Scope of Trial, Litigation and Arbitration Practice

Broad-based Commercial and Business Litigation practice; including 57 trials to verdict or award (Tom's clients prevailed in each of those trials)

Tom's specific subject matter and specialized experience include:

- Commercial contracts in a wide range of industries, including supply and distribution agreements sale of goods (UCC), professional service agreements, and corporate organizational documents. Thirty plus year specialization in contract-based auto supply litigation.
- Complex financial litigation, including in the areas of securities, antitrust, private equity, mergers and acquisitions, financial institutions, and technical financial statement-based claims (including representation of accounting and actuarial firms).
- Business torts, including breach of fiduciary duty, representation of business organizations, officers and directors, shareholders/members in a wide range of inter-company and intra-company disputes involving tort, contract, statutory and equity claims (including shareholder oppression, variously representing the company, majority owners and minority owners), trade secrets, restrictive covenants (competition, solicitation and disclosure agreements).
- Since 1999, Tom served as co-author and co-editor of *Michigan Business Torts* (published by ICLE, affiliated with the University of Michigan Law School), the seminal text in the field.
- Class actions in securities, antitrust, consumer, automotive and ERISA (variously representing the company, directors, officers, and senior management, and shareholders/members and investors).
- Defense of international, national and regional accounting, actuarial and other professional service firms (but not law firms) in standard of care litigation.
- Health care industry litigation, particularly disputes within physician practices.

Acknowledgements

Chambers USA, America's Leading Lawyers for Business[®]

Band 1 Commercial Litigation (top 5 commercial trial lawyers in Michigan)

Best in their Field, Commercial Litigation (from 2006)

Michigan Super Lawyers®

Top 10 List, all disciplines (2022, my last year of litigation practice)
Top 100 List, all disciplines (15+ years)
Top Rated in Business Litigation (from 2006)

Best Lawyers in America®, Commercial Litigation, from 2008

Commercial Litigation
Bet-the-Company Litigation
Litigation – Banking and Finance
Litigation – Securities
Litigation – Mergers and Acquisitions

Best Lawyers, Michigan Lawyer of the Year in:

Bet-the-Company Litigation
Litigation – Banking and Finance (twice)
Litigation – Securities (twice)

Benchmark Litigation, from 2014

“Litigation Star”

DBusiness Top Lawyers, from 2009

The Legal 500, from 2019

Michigan Leaders in the Law (Class of 2021)

Professional Involvement

National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, Fellow, from 2023

International Society of Barristers, 2019-22 (resigned upon concluding trial career)

Michigan Appellate Defender Commission, Member, 2011-2023, Vice Chair

- Nominated by the Michigan Supreme Court
- Appointed by three successive Governors

Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of Michigan Chapters, sustaining member, Past President, Officer and Board Member, presently a Sustaining Member

Federal Bar Association (the national organization), 6th Circuit Vice President (2014-16) with supervisory responsibility for 12 FBA Chapters; Federal Litigation Section, past Vice Chair, member and officer

State Bar of Michigan Foundation, Fellow (Top 5% of the profession in the State)

State Bar of Michigan – Kimberly M. Cahill Award for Bar Leadership, 2014

Oakland County Bar Association, member, Foundation Fellow and past member of the Advisory Committee to Business Oakland County Circuit Business Court

Detroit Bar Association, member, Inn of Court past president ("Section of the Year" Award)

Merit Selection Panel for the Eastern District of Michigan Magistrate Judges, past Chair and member.

Presentations and Publications

- Michigan Business Torts, Pappas, McNeill and Quick (ICLE 1999 to present), the State's seminal text in the field
- Business Law Symposium, "Mediation Mastery," Presenter, the Art of Mediation Negotiation (2025)
- Conference on Succession Planning and the Largest Transfer of Health in History, Presenter, Dispute Mediation (2025)
- "Proposed Advancements in Mediation Practices: Placing Clients at the Center of Mediation" (Michigan Bar Journal, 2024)
- American Bankruptcy Institute Conference, Trial Demonstration, Co-Chair and Instructor
- Eastern District of Michigan, United States Bankruptcy Court, Trial Demonstration Course, Co-Chair
- Michigan State University Law School, Trial Advocacy Course, Visiting Instructor
- Western Michigan University Cooley Law School, Paralegal Course, Visiting Instructor
- E-Discovery Blue Ribbon Study Panel, Co-Chair with Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack
- Michigan Business Courts, Michigan Judicial Institute, Presenter to twenty-plus Judges from across the state selected by the Michigan Supreme
- "High Stakes Gambling Litigation," Presenter, National Canadian Gaming Summit, Windsor, Ontario
- "Cross Examining Financial Experts in Bankruptcy Court," Presenter, sponsored by the Federal Bar Association
- ICLE's Masters of Litigation, Presenter:
 - "The Definitive Non-Compete Agreement"
 - "Litigating Non-Competition Agreements"
 - "Managing Pretrial Discovery of Electronic Data"

Dickinson Wright Management Positions (some positions overlapped)

Deputy CEO for the Firm (8 years)

Board of Directors (6 years, subject to term limits)

National Director for Litigation (9 years)

National Recruitment Director, merger/acquisitions, lateral partners, associates, summer associates (10 years)

All internal positions subject to full dedication to litigation clients and a full trial/litigation docket

Education

University of Virginia School of Law, J.D., Trial Advocacy Award (prevailed in four criminal defense trials, under the State's attorney supervised 3L Practice of Law Program), Founder of the Law School National Invitational Softball Tournament (40+ years, still going strong)

University of Notre Dame, B.A. American Studies, Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude

Bishop Ireton High School, Alexandria, Virginia