



# Robert W. Trafford

*counsel to the firm*

Buzz concentrates his practice in the area of complex business litigation at trial and appellate levels, including matters involving securities fraud, director and officer liability, and other corporate governance matters including internal investigations, attorney and accountant liability, and matters involving trade secrets and consumer class actions. In addition to his litigation practice, Buzz served as the firm's managing partner from 1997 to 2015.

Buzz is a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for more than 20 years, where he also serves as a member of its national board of advisors. He has been named by *The Best Lawyers in America*® as "Lawyer of the Year" in Columbus, Ohio many times in the areas of Litigation - Banking & Finance, Litigation - Mergers & Acquisitions and for Best-the-Company litigation.

Buzz has been recognized by clients and peers in *Chambers USA* as one of the leading General Commercial Litigation attorneys in Ohio and is recognized by Ohio Super Lawyers.

## BAR ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas
- Supreme Court of the United States

## PRESENTATIONS

- "Thinking on Your Feet: The Essential Skill of a Trial Lawyer," American College of Trial Lawyers/Ohio State Bar Association, Nov. 16, 2017
- "Ethics & Professionalism," American College of Trial Lawyers/Ohio State Bar Association, 2014-2017

## CONTACT

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Columbus, OH 43215

## EDUCATION

The Ohio State University College of Law, J.D., 1977

The Ohio State University, B.A.,  
*with distinction*, 1974

## SERVICES

### Litigation

- Appellate and Supreme Court practice
- Arbitration and mediation
- Class actions, mass torts and MDLs
- Commercial litigation
- Intellectual property litigation
- Non-competition and trade secrets litigation
- Probate, trust and guardianship litigation
- Professional liability
- Securities litigation
- Financial services litigation

- “Winning at Trial,” American College of Trial Lawyers/Ohio State Bar Association, 2016
- “Internal Investigations: Why? When? Who? How? The Key Issues,” Porter Wright Annual Ethics & Trends in Litigation Seminar, Dec. 9, 2015

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Columbus Bar Association
- Ohio State Bar Association
- American College of Trial Lawyers, Fellow
- American Bar Association, Litigation and Business Law Sections

## HONORS | AWARDS

- *Chambers USA*, Litigation: General Commercial, Ohio
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Columbus, Ohio Litigation – Banking & Finance, “Lawyer of the Year,” 2013, 2017
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Columbus, Ohio Litigation - Mergers & Acquisitions, “Lawyer of the Year,” 2014
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®
- Ohio Super Lawyers
- Ohio Super Lawyers, “Top 50 Columbus Super Lawyers,” 2011, 2010, 2006, 2004
- Ohio Super Lawyers, “Top 100 Ohio Super Lawyers,” 2009, 2006, 2005, 2004

## COMMUNITY

- Columbus Symphony Orchestra, Chair, Board of Trustees, 2006-2008; Trustee, 1999-2010
- Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Director, Executive Committee, 2003-2013
- Legal Aid Society of Columbus, President, Board of Trustees, 2006; Trustee, 1997-2007
- Ohio Business Roundtable, 1997-2015
- Columbus Council on World Affairs, Honorary Trustee

## SERVICES (CONTINUED)

### Investigations, White Collar Defense & Shareholder Litigation

- Shareholder and derivative litigation

### Securities

- SEC investigation and enforcement
- Securities litigation

### Education

### Tax, Estate Planning & Personal Wealth

- Probate, trust and guardianship litigation

### Financial Institutions

- Financial services litigation