



Ryan P. Sherman

partner

Ryan is a trial lawyer who concentrates his practice in the areas of construction and real estate law, where he represents developers, project owners, general contractors, subcontractors and suppliers. He co-chairs the firm's Construction Practice Group and currently serves as the chair of the Columbus Bar Association's Construction Law Committee.

In addition to his construction and real estate litigation practice, Ryan possesses significant experience litigating a variety of other complex commercial disputes, including in the areas of contract, oil and gas, health care, intellectual property, and securities and shareholder law.

Ryan's construction practice crosses every facet of the industry. He assists clients with the preparation and review of construction contracts so that his clients' rights and interests are fully secured before the project begins. When the ink on the contract is dry, Ryan provides project management services throughout the life of the project in order to ensure that the client's project or services are delivered on time and on budget and make certain that the client is well positioned and protected in the event of a dispute. When disputes do arise, Ryan works collaboratively with his client and the other project participants to arrive at a cooperative resolution without resort to litigation, so that project funds go to the project participants and not to unnecessary legal expenses. When problems can't be resolved cooperatively, Ryan possesses the trial experience necessary to aggressively litigate all manner of construction disputes, including payment and breach of contract claims, delay and acceleration claims, construction defect claims, and mechanics' lien and bond claims.

Ryan is an active member of numerous industry organizations, including the Central Ohio Builders Exchange and the American Bar Association's Forum on Construction Law. He is a frequent speaker and guest lecturer on construction and real estate law topics for in-house counsel and trade industry associations.

Ryan's real estate practice focuses on the litigation and enforcement of property rights, with a particular emphasis on eminent domain disputes and oil and gas matters. Ryan represents regional and national utility and pipeline companies in acquiring the easements necessary to fuel the region's energy growth.

CONTACT

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SOCIAL MEDIA

Blogs

energylawreport.com

EDUCATION

The Ohio State University Michael
E. Moritz College of Law, J.D., 2002

The Ohio State University, B.A.,
magna cum laude, 1999

SERVICES

Litigation

- Commercial litigation
- Construction
- Real Estate
- Intellectual property litigation
- Non-competition and trade secrets litigation
- Securities litigation
- Arbitration and mediation
- Class actions, mass torts and MDLs
- Health Care litigation
- Financial services litigation

Ryan has been recognized by *Chambers USA* among the “Leaders in their Field” for General Commercial Litigation in Ohio. According to *Chambers USA*, “Ryan Sherman is an emerging talent with a focus on complex commercial disputes, including construction, oil and gas, and healthcare. He is building a reputation as ‘a well-rounded litigator - a great writer and a great advocate.’” *Chambers USA* went on to note him as “one of the next generation of leading Ohio litigators.”

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Construction Litigation

- Currently serving as lead counsel for national home builder in numerous construction disputes and related matters throughout Ohio.
- Successfully represented The Ohio State University in two multi-million dollar lawsuits involving “Project One” — the University’s \$1 billion expansion of its medical center.
- Successfully defended national manufacturer in multi-million dollar construction lawsuit.
- Tried and won a commercial construction dispute involving claims of negligence, breach of warranty and breach of contract.
- Successfully represented state contracting agency in several significant construction defect cases, obtaining over \$1 million in combined settlement payments.

Intellectual Property Disputes

- Currently representing international automotive component supplier in a complex patent infringement action.
- Currently representing international paper manufacturer in trademark and unfair competition actions in federal court.
- Argued and won Sixth Circuit appeal on behalf of national children’s product manufacturer in a commercial trademark dispute involving the sale of infant products.
- Successfully represented equity research firm in obtaining a temporary restraining order and stipulated injunction that required a group of former employees who had formed a competing firm to return trade secret and confidential information and prohibited them from soliciting top customers.

Securities & Shareholder Actions

- Successfully defended national financial institution in related securities, ERISA and shareholder derivative actions.
- Successfully defended national retailer in several shareholder lawsuits challenging propriety of proposed merger.
- Obtained dismissal of shareholder class action and derivative challenge to multi-million dollar proposed merger.

Business Contract Disputes

- Successfully represented national energy supplier in a breach of contract action seeking to pierce the corporate veil of insolvent business partner’s parent corporation.

SERVICES (CONTINUED)

Business Competition Advice & Litigation

- Non-compete, non-solicitation, non-recruitment and non-disclosure agreements
- Non-competition and trade secret counseling and litigation

Securities

- Securities litigation

Real Estate

- Real estate litigation
- Construction and design contracts

Health Care

- Litigation

Intellectual Property

- Enforcement, disputes and litigation

Energy

- Oil and gas

Financial Institutions

- Financial services litigation

- Obtained dismissal of Ohio lawsuit against out-of-state real estate developer on personal jurisdiction grounds.
- Successfully defended physician group in federal district court and subsequent Sixth Circuit appeal in a case filed by former physician employee alleging termination in violation of public policy, as well as violations of Stark and anti-kickback statutes.
- Represented employee and employer in preliminary injunction proceedings involving alleged violations of non-compete agreement.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio

PRESENTATIONS

- “Avoiding Construction Litigation: The Top Ten Contract Provisions,” Builders Exchange of Central Ohio, Jan. 21, 2020
- “Construction Law Seminar: Building Out Your Litigation Avoidance Plan,” Porter Wright Construction Client Seminar, June 28, 2018
- “Understanding Construction Contracts,” HalfMoon Education’s AIA Contract Document Workshop, 2018
- “Eminent Domain by Private Entities and Public Utilities,” Eminent Domain Institute’s 2-Day Columbus Conference, 2018
- “Examining Legal Issues and Contract Disputes,” HalfMoon Education’s Construction Contract Workshop, 2017
- “Construction Law Claims and Payment Remedies,” Ohio State Bar Association Construction Law Forum, 2017
- “Protection Against the Unknowns: ABCs of CGL,” Porter Wright Construction Client Seminar, Nov. 9, 2016
- “Ohio Construction Law Update 2014-2015,” Ohio State Bar Association Construction Law Forum, Sept. 17, 2015
- “Condemnation in the Public Utility World,” International Right of Way Association’s Utility Day Seminar, 2014
- “Construction Opportunities in the Oil & Gas Industry,” Builders Exchange of Central Ohio, 2013
- “What’s New in Public Contracting: ProjectOne and Year One of Construction Reform,” Ohio State Bar Association Construction Law Forum, 2012
- “ProjectOne: What’s New in Public Contracting?,” Ohio State Bar Association Construction Law Forum, Sept. 6, 2011

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Builders Exchange of Central Ohio, Rising Leaders Graduate, 2013; Cornerstone Award Committee, 2018-2020
- American Bar Association, Forum on Construction Law, Division 1 Member
- Columbus Bar Association, Construction Law Committee, Chair, 2020-2022; Judicial Screening Committee, 2012-2014
- International Right of Way Association, Chapter 13 Member
- Ohio State Bar Association, Council of Delegates, 2010-2012; Construction Law Committee
- Defense Research Institute, Construction Law Committee, past Member

- Building Industry Association of Central Ohio, past Member

HONORS | AWARDS

- *Best Lawyers*[®], Construction Law
- Ohio State Bar Association, Best Brief Award “Best Private Briefs,” April 2018
- *Chambers USA*, Litigation: General Commercial, Ohio
- *Ohio Super Lawyers*[®], Rising Stars Edition, 2009-2016
- Order of the Coif

COMMUNITY

- Ohio Supreme Court Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring Program, Mentor, 2010-present
- Pro Bono Tenants’ Advocacy Project and Collections Defense Project
- Leadership Columbus, Class of 2011