

People



Jeffrey J. Mayer

Partner, Litigation

Chicago

T: +1 312 634 5733

jeffrey.mayer@akerman.com

vCard

A business litigator, Jeff has litigated hundreds of disputes, including complex collective and class actions throughout the country. Jeff represents clients in real estate, software, complex scientific and technical contract matters, as well as in select employment litigation. He serves as lead counsel in federal and state courts, arbitration tribunals, and before administrative agencies throughout the United States. Over the years, Jeff has represented clients in virtually all areas of commercial and real estate litigation including UCC, Lanham Act, antitrust, tax, ERISA, shareholder conflict, consumer fraud, construction, regulatory disputes, franchise, admiralty, easement, title, and insurance matters. He has worked on employment disputes in multiple jurisdictions, including some of the nation's largest class and collective actions for his clients in the restaurant, real estate, automotive, software, telecommunications, and education sectors. Outside the courtroom, Jeff designs creative arbitration programs and contracts that protect clients' interests and budgets.

Jeff has argued appeals in the Second, Third, Sixth, and Seventh Court of Appeals, the state appellate courts in multiple jurisdictions, and prevailed as *pro bono* appellate counsel before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Jeff is an adjunct professor at The John Marshall Law School, where he teaches real estate litigation. He frequently speaks and writes on arbitration, trial techniques, and supply chain and purchasing matters.

Jeff has a substantial commitment to public service. He supports Ascend Justice, providing *pro bono* legal services to families in crisis. He is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Joe Niekro Foundation, devoted to the survivors of brain aneurysms, and he also serves on the Duke Chicago board, previously serving as its Chair.

Notable Work

Areas of Experience

Litigation
 Commercial Disputes
 Employment Training and Compliance
 Class Action Defense
 Eminent Domain and Property Rights
 Employment Administrative Claims Defense
 Employment Litigation
 Franchise and Licensing
 International
 Real Estate Litigation
 Trade Secrets, Restrictive Covenants, and Unfair Competition
 Wage and Hour
 Hospitality Dispute Resolution
 Labor and Employment
 Probate and Fiduciary Litigation

Education

J.D., Washington University School of Law, Order of the Coif Honor Scholar; Associate Editor Washington University Law Quarterly
 LL.M., University of Michigan, International and Comparative Law
 B.A., Duke University

Admissions

Bars

Illinois
 Michigan
 New York
 Ohio

Courts

U.S. Supreme Court
 U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
 U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
 U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
 U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

Trade Secret/Software: Multiple proceedings representing a software company including in multi-district litigation regarding theft of trade secrets.

Telecommunications: Represented a company in connection with claims arising out of an asset purchase agreement involving the seller's fraudulent representation of the nationwide installation of defective antennas built into a mobile telephone network.

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: Represented the defendant in the nation's then largest sexual harassment pattern and practice case.

Franchisor: Represented a franchisor in connection with the enforcement and termination of various distribution agreements trying cases to verdict.

Related Professional Experience

- Clerk for the Honorable Jack D.H. Hays and the Honorable James Moeller of the Arizona Supreme Court

Recent Published Work and Lectures

- *Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education (IICLE)*, Co-Author, "Trial Techniques in Business and Commercial Cases," Chapter 8, 2019 Edition
- ABA Midyear Meeting, Speaker, "Corporate Counsel Training Camp – Enhancing Skills for In-House Lawyers Dealing with IP, Employment, Contracts, and General Litigation Matters," February 2, 2017
- *Inside Supply Management*, Co-author, "ISM Mastery Model Competency: Supply Relationship Management," August 2016
- The Chicago Bar Association's Labor & Employment Law Committee Meeting, Speaker, "Employment Arbitration: A Discussion of Different Perspectives," February 10, 2016
- *Supply & Demand Chain Executive*, Contributing Author, "Cyber Security and Contracts: Have You Looked at Them Lately?" December 14, 2015
- Institute of Supply Management Annual Conference, Phoenix, Arizona, Presenter, "Lurking Relationship Risks: How to Protect Yourself in Business," 2015

Affiliations

- Duke Chicago, Co-Chair
- The Joe Niekro Foundation, Board of Directors

U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois – Trial Bar
U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio
U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan
U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin
U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York

Related Content

Akerman Represents TZP Group in Results Roofing Investment
May 01, 2025

Akerman Hosts the 2019 Miami Regional Roundtable
October 10, 2019

Kline, Mayer, Thomas Write *Bloomberg Law* Article Sharing ADA Compliance Concerns, Best Practices
March 01, 2019