

## People



## Ryan C. Williams

Partner, Litigation

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vCard

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A complex commercial litigator with experience in all aspects of litigation, trial, and appellate work, Ryan Williams represents Fortune 500 companies, small businesses, and individuals. Ryan focuses his practice on business and commercial litigation matters involving contract disputes, tortious interference with contract cases, LLC member disputes, breach of fiduciary duty matters, class action defense, trade dress and patent infringement cases, malpractice defense, defamation defense, and insurance coverage actions.

Ryan has tried cases in both federal and state courts throughout the United States, including multiple breach of contract claims, a trade dress action, and a claim under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA). While equipped to proceed to trial if need be, clients value Ryan's practical advice and solutions to resolve matters without the need for trial.

### Notable Work

**LLC Member Dispute:** Represented an LLC member as the first chair trial lawyer in a dispute over the purchase of his membership interest in the LLC. Obtained a judgment in excess of \$300,000 and an award of attorneys' fees.

**LLC Member Buy-Out:** Represented an LLC member and served as part of a trial team that obtained a \$25 million judgment and attorneys' fees based on a forced buy-out of the client's membership interest.

**Trade Dress Infringement and Unfair Competition:** Represented a large cookware manufacturer and served as part of a trial team that obtained a \$1.2 million jury verdict in the Western District of North Carolina for theories of trade dress infringement and unfair competition.

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### Areas of Experience

Litigation  
Sports

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### Education

J.D., The John Marshall Law School, 2008, Summa Cum Laude; American Bankruptcy Institute's Medal of Excellence Recipient, The John Marshall Law Review, Production Editor  
B.A., University of Colorado, Political Science, 2004

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### Admissions

#### Bars

Illinois

#### Courts

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois  
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Indiana  
U.S. District Court, District of Colorado  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit

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### Related Content

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October 28, 2020

Akerman Sponsors the Smokey Bones General Manager and Vendor Conference  
September 11, 2019

**Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA):** Represented a large corporate client in obtaining summary judgment in the defense of a class action TCPA saving the client millions of dollars in potential liability.

**Deposition Misconduct:** Represented a large corporate client and obtained sanctions in excess of \$54,000 against an individual defendant for deposition misconduct. After the Defendant denied the misconduct, served as lead counsel in a full evidentiary hearing with the judge finding the Defendant gave false testimony.

**Insurance Class Action:** Represented an insurance company in obtaining a finding of no duty in a case seeking millions of dollars in coverage stemming from multiple class action complaints involving the use of BPA in consumer products.

## Honors and Distinctions

- *Super Lawyers Magazine* 2012-2020, Listed in Illinois as a “Rising Star” for Business Litigation
- *Emerging Lawyer Magazine* 2015, Listed in Illinois as an “Emerging Lawyer” for Commercial Litigation