

People



Michael C. Marsh

Partner, Litigation

Member, Executive Committee

Miami

T: +1 305 982 5507

Fort Lauderdale

T: +1 305 982 5507

michael.marsh@akerman.com

vCard

[Connect With Me](#)

“Michael was the CEO ‘whisperer.’

- *Fortune 100 General Counsel*

An accomplished first chair trial lawyer and trusted counselor, Michael Marsh has extensive experience representing Fortune companies and private equity firms in high stakes business disputes and providing strategic input and guidance on business issues. With a wide-ranging litigation practice in federal and state courts throughout the United States, he is an important resource for clients engaged in disputes involving sophisticated commercial contracts, securities and other class action defense, shareholder disputes, derivative actions, Mergers & Acquisitions, private equity, and D&O liability. Consistently recognized by *Chambers* and *Benchmark Litigation* as a Litigation Star, Michael has served as lead trial counsel in many jury and bench trials across the country on behalf of clients in various industries.

Outside of the courtroom, clients turn to Michael for counsel on day-to-day operations, high value employment matters, major restructurings, and navigating corporate governance and compliance issues, including federal and state agency investigations.

Michael is a member of our firm’s Executive Committee, the Board of Directors of Attorneys’ Liability Assurance Society Ltd., a member of the International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), a fellow of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Friends of South Florida Autism.

Notable Work

Alcohol: Represented a craft spirit company in Delaware Chancery Court in a specific performance action to enforce agreement to

Areas of Experience

Litigation
Commercial Disputes
Class Action Defense
Private Equity Litigation
Securities Litigation
Directors and Officers (D&O) Liability
Financial Services
Product Liability and Mass Torts

Education

J.D., State University of New York at Buffalo, 1989
B.A., State University of New York at Stony Brook, 1986

Admissions

Bars

Florida
New York

Courts

U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York
U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
U.S. District Court, Western District of New York

Related Content

Lawdragon Once Again Names Michael Marsh and Grasford Smith Among the Country’s Leading Lawyers
January 16, 2025

purchase bourbon whiskey brand despite seller's remorse.

Automotive: Represent an automotive client in matters relating to a multidistrict automotive parts antitrust (price fixing) class action pending in the Eastern District of Michigan.

Aviation: Represented an aircraft parts manufacturer in defending a \$250 million distribution contract filed in New York.

Aviation/Product Liability: Obtained a complete defense verdict following a three-week jury trial, in which our clients, a French plane manufacturer and its U.S. subsidiary, were cleared on design defect, failure-to-warn, and negligence claims. Plaintiffs sought more than \$40 million in punitive and other damages prior to trial.

Credit Card Payment: Represented a private equity firm in an approximately \$70 million D&O lawsuit filed in New York.

Credit Card Payment: Represented a private equity firm's portfolio company in action pending in the District of Delaware in dispute over equity/membership interests.

Credit Card Payment: Represented a private equity portfolio company in defending a \$30 million trademark (Lanham Act) and contract case filed at the Eastern District of New York.

Fraud and Money Laundering: Represented two firms targeted by a fraud and money laundering scheme involving bribes and kickbacks. Conducted internal investigations and worked closely with federal prosecutors in Miami, Florida in a criminal trial of the defendants, culminating in a \$37 million restitution award to the clients. Represent the clients in an ongoing \$27 million civil lawsuit against other wrongdoers in the matter.

Gaming: Represented client in defending a federal RICO and conspiracy lawsuit against, among others, the Caribbean's largest gaming company.

Grocer: Represented a large regional grocer (private equity) in bringing multibillion dollar antitrust and related tort and contract claims in the District of Delaware arising out of government-mandated divestiture of grocery stores.

Healthcare Private Equity: Obtained a full arbitration award on behalf of a private equity fund and its portfolio companies in post-acquisition working capital earn-out dispute.

Healthcare: Represented client in litigating a securities class action filed in Florida emanating from an M&A transaction valued at approximately \$400 million.

Healthcare Private Equity: Obtained arbitral award for a healthcare private equity firm arising out of the sale of one of its portfolio companies, including defense of fraud claims and disputes over earn-out payments and net working capital.

Higher Education: Represented a medical school in a lawsuit brought by a dismissed student alleging claims for fraud and unfair business practices arising from the school's advertised attrition rate.

Higher Education: Represent a medical school in a lawsuit brought by a dismissed student alleging claims for failure to accommodate a disability and fraud.

Benchmark Litigation Recognizes 34 Akerman Lawyers in its 2025 Rankings of the Leading Litigators in the United States
October 17, 2024

Akerman Lawyers Ranked in Florida by *Super Lawyers Magazine*
July 16, 2024

Pharmaceutical: Litigated a securities class action filed in Las Vegas, Nevada emanating from an M&A transaction valued at approximately \$500 million.

Restaurant: Represented a Fortune 100 public company in a high-profile proxy contest.

Restaurant: Represented a Fortune 100 public company in a securities class action relating to a shareholder rights plan.

Retail/Consumer Electronics: Represented a Fortune 1000 public company and its subsidiary in multiple matters emanating from whistleblower allegations of corporate fraud and corruption.

Retail/Consumer Electronics: Represented a public company in matters relating to federal prosecution and investigation of corporate fraud and corruption.

Shareholder Dispute: Represented a Fortune 100, publicly trade restaurant group in a high-profile proxy fight between its board of directors and shareholders, including an activist hedge fund, concerning one of the group's restaurant brands.

Staffing: Represented a staffing company in a securities class action filed in Denver federal court emanating from a \$50 million Ponzi scheme.

TCPA Class Action: Represented a hotel and resort company in TCPA class action filed in the Eastern District of Michigan.

Tobacco: Represented a large cigar manufacturer in defending \$70 million antitrust and related tort and contract claims in the Central District of California.

Published Work and Lectures

- IADC Presentation
- Paramount Presentation

Affiliations

- Attorneys' Liability Assurance Society (ALAS), Board of Directors, Member
- National Bar Association, Member
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD), Fellow, 2013
- Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. Bar Association, Member
- 100 Black Men of South Florida, Inc., Past Member
- South Florida Autism Charter Schools, Inc., Board of Directors

Honors and Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers*, Listed in Florida for Commercial Litigation, Bet-the-Company Litigation, and Litigation - Securities
- *Chambers USA*, 2021-2024, 2019, Ranked in Florida for Litigation: General Commercial
- *Lawdragon*, Listed as a "Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America"
- *Benchmark Litigation*, Listed in Florida as a "Local Litigation Star" for General Commercial and Securities
- *Daily Business Review*, 2019, Recognized as a "Most Effective Lawyer" for Products Liability and Business/Complex Litigation,

and Most Effective Lawyer Finalist for Corporate Securities

- *Super Lawyers*, Magazine, Listed in Florida for Business Litigation
- *Daily Business Review*, Professional Excellence Awards, “Distinguished Leader”
- Lawyers of Color, Nation’s Best, Honoree
- *Savoy Magazine*, Named One of the Country’s “Most Influential Black Lawyers”
- *Lexology/ILO Client Choice Award*, Listed for Litigation in Florida and client-recognized for “excellence” in care and service