

# MINNESOTA

## Local litigation firms

### Highly recommended

Dorsey & Whitney

Faegre & Benson

Robins Kaplan Miller & Ciresi

Winthrop & Weinstine

### Recommended

Anthony Ostlund Baer Louwagie & Ross

Bassford Remele

Briggs & Morgan

Fredrickson & Byron

Gray Plant Mooty

Greene Espel

Leonard Street and Deinard

Lindquist & Vennum

Maslon Edelman Borman & Brand

## Local litigation stars

### Joseph Anthony

Anthony Ostlund Baer Louwagie & Ross  
Antitrust, Financial Fraud, Real Estate Litigation,  
Securities

### Peter Carter

Dorsey & Whitney  
Appellate, Securities

### Michael Ciresi

Robins Kaplan Miller & Ciresi  
Intellectual Property, International Arbitration,  
Personal Injury, Products Liability

### Scott Davies

Briggs & Morgan  
Employment Litigation

### Terrence Fleming

Lindquist & Vennum  
Commercial Litigation, Securities, White Collar  
Crime

### Thomas Fraser

Fredrickson & Byron  
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Insurance,  
Securities

### Clifford Greene

Greene Espel  
Appellate, Employment Litigation, Government  
Litigation, Products Liability

### Richard Ihrig

Lindquist & Vennum  
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Energy

### Anne Lockner

Robins Kaplan Miller & Ciresi  
Antitrust, Class Actions, Intellectual Property, White  
Collar Crime

### Lauren Lonergan

Briggs & Morgan  
Employment Litigation, Insurance

### Martin Lueck

Robins Kaplan Miller & Ciresi  
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Intellectual  
Property, International Arbitration

### Roger Magnuson

Dorsey & Whitney  
Antitrust, Class Actions, Government Litigation,  
White Collar Crime

### Richard Mark

Briggs & Morgan  
Commercial Litigation, Insurance, Products Liability,  
Securities

### James McCarthy

Lindquist & Vennum  
Antitrust, Bankruptcy, Commercial Litigation

### Gregory Merz

Gray Plant Mooty  
Antitrust, Appellate, Health Law, White Collar Crime

### Todd Noteboom

Leonard Street and Deinard  
Class Actions, Commercial Litigation, Insurance

### William Pentelovitch

Maslon Edelman Borman & Brand  
Appellate, Commercial Litigation, Government  
Litigation, Intellectual Property

### Doug Peterson

Leonard Street & Deinard  
Commercial Litigation, White Collar Crime

### Brooks Poley

Winthrop & Weinstine  
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Insurance,  
Intellectual Property

### Lawrence Purdy

Maslon Edelman Borman & Brand  
Mass Torts, Products Liability

### Lewis Remele Jr

Bassford Remele  
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Employment  
Litigation, Intellectual Property, Products Liability,  
Securities

### Mary Schwind

Leonard Street & Deinard  
Construction Litigation

### Marianne Short

Dorsey & Whitney  
Antitrust, Class Action, Products Liability, Securities

### Jerry Snider

Faegre & Benson  
Antitrust

### Byron Starns

Leonard Street and Deinard  
Energy, Environmental Litigation, Estate Litigation



**Timothy Thornton**

Briggs & Morgan  
 Appellate, Business Litigation, Class Actions,  
 Employment Litigation, Environmental Litigation,  
 Products Liability

**Thomas Tinkham**

Dorsey & Whitney  
 Commercial Litigation, Employment Litigation,  
 Insurance

**James Volling**

Faegre & Benson  
 Appellate, Class Actions, Securities, White Collar  
 Crime

**Charles Webber**

Faegre & Benson  
 Appellate, Class Actions, Natural Resources,  
 Securities

**Robert Weinstine**

Winthrop & Weinstine  
 Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Construction  
 Litigation, Securities

## Future stars

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Norman Abramson  
 Gray Plant Mooty

Scott Andresen  
 Bassford Remele

Elizabeth Brama  
 Briggs & Morgan

Dominic Cecere  
 Leonard Street & Deinard

Kevin Decker  
 Briggs & Morgan

Dean Eyster  
 Gray Plant Mooty

Christianna Finnern  
 Winthrop & Weinstine

Amy Freestone  
 Faegre & Benson

Tim Gelinske  
 Briggs & Morgan

Justice Lindell  
 Winthrop & Weinstine

Courtland Merrill  
 Anthony Ostlund Baer Louwagie & Ross

Crystal Patterson  
 Fredrickson & Byron

Daniel Sacco  
 Lindquist & Vennum

Samuel Sigelman  
 Lindquist & Vennum

Bryant Tchida  
 Leonard Street and Deinard

John Ursu  
 Greene Espel



# Minnesota

**M**innesota has seen an increase in complex commercial litigation over the past year. A majority of litigation firms are headquartered in the Twin Cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, which continue to experience economic growth.

## Highly recommended firms

### Dorsey & Whitney

The Minnesota branch of international firm Dorsey & Whitney has over 300 lawyers operating out of its Minneapolis headquarters and is consistently lauded for its business law practice and stellar client service. One competitor notes that the firm “is in a very high litigation league.” The firm receives accolades for its work in class action, employment, financial services, intellectual property and securities litigation.

**Roger Magnuson** heads the firm’s national strategic litigation group and manages a leading white-collar criminal, First Amendment and international arbitration practice. Still remembered for his representation of the Florida Senate in *Bush v. Gore*, Magnuson typically handles high-profile cases in state and federal courts all across the United States.

Managing partner **Marianne Short** possesses 30 years of experience as a trial attorney and as a Minnesota state appellate judge. She has represented clients in antitrust, healthcare, products liability and securities litigation. Clients include Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota, Ceridian Corporation, Qwest Communications and former governor Jesse Ventura. **Thomas Tinkham** represents major clients including 3M and Cargill.

**Peter Carter** defends public companies in securities litigation matters, namely in class actions. He has experience arguing cases before the SEC and other U.S. regulatory agencies.

### Faegre & Benson

One of the largest firms in the state, Faegre & Benson’s Minneapolis team has handled cases for a diverse array of clients, from burgeoning enterprises to established multinational businesses. One competitor says “the firm as undeniably strong.” In addition to the firm’s robust Minnesota practice, it also has locations in Colorado and Iowa and international offices in England, Germany and China. The firm’s strengths lie in antitrust, employment, intellectual property, and products liability and in that capacity has represented Dupont, Koch Industries, Novartis, and UPS. The firm successfully represented Global Traffic Technologies in a patent infringement case against defendant Tomar Electronics in October 2008. The jury in the U.S. District

Court in Minneapolis awarded Global Traffic Technologies \$7 million in damages.

Peers praise **Jerry Snider** for his trial and appellate work in complex civil cases pertaining to antitrust and agribusiness litigation. A peer notes that he is a “sharp talker and a phenomenal litigator.” Snider has represented Capital One, General Mills and Target Corporation. **James Volling** represents individuals in white collar matters and complex commercial disputes. **Charles Webber** has a diverse practice with specializations in consumer credit, employment and oil and gas litigation.

### Robins Kaplan Miller & Ciresi

From its humble beginnings in 1938 as a two-person Minneapolis firm, Robins Kaplan Miller & Ciresi has grown to include over 600 lawyers with offices in Minnesota, Georgia, Florida, Massachusetts and California. The Minneapolis office is the firm’s largest with over 150 lawyers. Key practice areas include antitrust, class actions, health care, insurance, intellectual property, mass tort and products liability litigation. The firm defended UnitedHealth Group, Inc. and PacifiCare in an antitrust lawsuit stemming from alleged price-fixing and fraud relating to prescription drug reimbursement under the federal Medicare program. Plaintiff Omnicare sought over \$1 billion in damages and permanent injunctive relief. In January 2009, the firm obtained summary judgment for its clients after discovery and multiple pretrial motions.

**Michael Ciresi** focuses on products liability and general business litigation. He recently represented plaintiffs in a series of cases against Bellweather Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals and Pfizer. The plaintiffs alleged that the defendants failed to warn consumers of negative side-effects of Mirapex, a drug that treats Parkinson’s disease. In July 2008 the jury rendered a verdict of just over \$8 million in favor of the plaintiffs in one case, and a second case settled for an undisclosed amount.

Peers calls **Martin Lueck** “excellent” for his strong intellectual property practice. Clients have included General Electric and Eolas Technologies. A competitor states that **Anne Lockner** “is a lawyer to watch” for her impressive work in antitrust, commercial and intellectual property litigation.

### Winthrop & Weinstine

With offices in the twin cities of Minneapolis

and St. Paul, Winthrop & Weinstine has grown from a boutique financial firm into a veritable powerhouse of 88 attorneys. One competitor notes that “the firm has excellent lawyers who are business generators.” The firm’s primary focus remains litigation, with attorneys practicing commercial, construction, employment and intellectual property law. Representative clients include Dominion Development & Acquisition, Welsh Companies and Marvin Lumber and Cedar Company.

Founding partner **Robert Weinstine** has represented individuals and businesses in antitrust, construction, products liability and securities litigation. Weinstine has over 30 years of legal experience. One peer has praised Weinstine for his “sharp litigation skills.” Litigation department chair **Brooks Poley** manages a robust complex commercial litigation and white collar criminal practice. He represents clients in contract cases, shareholder disputes and intellectual property matters. **Justice Lindell’s** practice specializes in commercial litigation. He also does substantial civil appellate work.

## Recommended firms

### Anthony Ostlund Baer & Louwagie

Regarded as a successful boutique firm, Anthony Ostlund Baer & Louwagie has been lauded by an attorney for its team of “good business litigation lawyers.” The firm handles antitrust, contract, employment, real estate and trademark cases.

Firm president **Joseph Anthony** has been called a “world class litigator” by a competitor. His practice includes antitrust, banking and securities litigation. In February 2009, Anthony was named general counsel of the United States Golf Association. In a three week arbitration in March 2009, Anthony represented a Twin Cities plaintiff who sued RBC Dain Rauscher to recover losses sustained in an investment account due to the company’s alleged mismanagement and negligence. The panel awarded the plaintiff \$5.6 million in damages.

### Bassford Remele

Bassford Remele is a full service litigation firm that traces its roots to 1882. The firm excels in products liability, securities, professional liability, insurance and other general commercial matters. Partners Dale Wagner and Jessica Williams recently won summary judgment on behalf of a products distributor with respect to a plaintiff’s claim that he suffered severe injuries as a result of riding an allegedly faulty inflatable water toy designed by the defendant.

Name partner **Lewis Remele Jr.** has an extensive contracts, employment and products liability practice. His clients include ConAgra, The Traveller Companies and American National Can Company. **Scott Andresen** has a notable commercial and construction litigation practice. He is also

praised for his appellate work.

#### **Briggs & Morgan**

Briggs & Morgan has offices in Minneapolis and St. Paul and a business litigation group of 65 lawyers. The firm houses successful intellectual property, products liability and securities practices. Since 2006 the firm has represented Bridgeport Fittings in a patent dispute with a leading competitor. The case was successfully resolved for the firm's client when the district court judge granted summary judgment to Bridgeport regarding the infringement claims on one of the patents.

**Lauren Lonergan** heads the business litigation group and the majority of her work is in policy holder insurance claims. She is also adept at handling employment class actions. She successfully completed a major case representing a Muslim employee on his claims of workplace discrimination against a food processing company. **Richard Mark's** business litigation practice focuses on insurance coverage, legal malpractice defense, products liability defense and securities fraud work. **Timothy Thornton** handles a wide array of cases including ERISA, employment, class action and transportation matters. **Kevin Decker** specializes in complex railroad litigation and mass tort claims.

#### **Fredrikson & Byron**

In addition to the firm's Minneapolis office, Fredrikson & Byron has offices in Iowa, North Dakota, Mexico and China. Established in 1948, the firm's Minneapolis headquarters support a varied practice with specialties in employment, health care, intellectual property and technology litigation. The firm's clients include multinational corporations, privately-held businesses and family-owned companies.

Possessing over 30 years of legal experience, **Thomas Fraser** deals primarily with antitrust, medical malpractice and shareholder claims. **Crystal Patterson** represents individuals and companies in contract disputes, business torts, ERISA claims and insurance coverage. She chairs the trust and estates litigation group.

#### **Gray Plant Mooty**

Formed in 1866, Gray Plant Mooty has offices in Minneapolis and St. Cloud as well as an East Coast office in Washington, D.C. The Minnesota offices comprise roughly 150 lawyers and are known for antitrust, products liability, professional liability, and white-collar criminal defense litigation.

**Gregory Merz** co-chairs the firm's business and general litigation group and has represented clients in telecommunications, employment, and complex internal investigation matters. He has argued cases before several government agencies including the Attorney General's Office, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Health and the Department of Human

Rights. **Norman Abramson** practices intellectual property and estate litigation. In 2008, he successfully defended Wozniak Travel Agency in trademark infringement and dilution claims brought by producers of the Lord of the Rings movie trilogy due to the agency's use of the name Hobbit Travel. **Dean Eyler** focuses his practice on antitrust, intellectual property and unfair competition disputes. He has represented Northern PCS Services, Taylor Corporation and Lifecore Biomedical.

#### **Greene Espel**

Formed in 1993 as a litigation boutique, Greene Espel is renowned for its

been practicing since 1969 and excels at energy, environmental, real estate, and trust litigation. **Bryant Tchida** is recognized as a rising star in the field of securities and class action litigation. He defends clients in Federal False Claims Act and Federal Contract Disputes Act proceedings. **Mary Schwind** stands out for her construction-related litigation work. She is co-chair of the Construction Law Section of the Minnesota State Bar Association and is a member of the Association of Women Contractors.

#### **Lindquist & Vennum**

Lindquist & Vennum maintains a formidable antitrust, complex commercial, intellectual

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**“Peers praise Jerry Snider for his trial and appellate work in complex civil cases pertaining to antitrust and agribusiness litigation. A peer notes that he is a ‘sharp talker and a phenomenal litigator.’”**

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employment, environmental, intellectual property, professional liability and white-collar litigation practices. The firm's appellate practice has also been active in 2009, with its partners arguing cases on behalf of the City of Roseville and the National Football League Players' Association.

Founding partner **Clifford Greene** is recognized for successfully representing manufacturers in products liability and consumer fraud actions. **John Ursu** joined Greene Espel in 2005 and has made a name for himself managing complex business disputes. Prior to joining the firm, Ursu was a law clerk for the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota.

#### **Leonard Street and Deinard**

Established in 1928 in Minneapolis, Leonard Street and Deinard has expanded to include locations in Mankato, St. Cloud and Washington D.C. The 180-attorney firm is lauded by peers for its significant real estate litigation practice. Leonard Street and Deinard has defended A.O. Smith Corporation, a leading manufacturer of water-heating equipment and electric motors, in national litigation involving allegations that former welders have contracted various diseases from exposure to fumes from certain types of welding rods.

**Michael Taylor** is the litigation division chair and is praised for his commercial, construction and insurance coverage work, with peers noting that “his construction work is impressive.” **Todd Noteboom** is the chair of the Class Action Practice Group and the Securities, Financial Services and Broker-Dealer Practice Group. His practice consists of securities litigation and arbitration and financial services litigation. **Byron Starns** has

property and securities practice. The firm has offices in Minneapolis and Denver, Colorado and is well established in the Midwest and Rocky Mountain regions. **Terrence Fleming** manages a thriving commercial fraud practice, with a focus on shareholder disputes and class actions and investor-broker disputes. **Richard Ihrig** is known for his expertise in antitrust, energy and environmental litigation. **James McCarthy** tackles antitrust, business fraud, and tax litigation cases. He has successfully represented many clients in the agribusiness industry.

#### **Maslon Edelman Borman & Brand**

Based in Minneapolis, Maslon Edelman Borman & Brand focuses on construction, employment, insurance, intellectual property and complex business matters. The firm represents governmental bodies, major manufacturers, utility companies and individuals. In May 2009, lawyers at Maslon Edelman filed an amicus brief on behalf of a Minnesota employer regarding certification requirements in a class-action lawsuit involving the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce.

**William Pentelovitch** has been praised for his banking, contracts, intellectual property and securities litigation practices. He has over 35 years of trial experience, and is also known for his appellate practice and noncompetition work. **Lawrence Purdy** focuses on the defense of medical device and pharmaceutical manufacturers in large products liability suits across the United States.