

## OHIO

## Local litigation firms

**Highly recommended**

Baker &amp; Hostetler

Dinsmore &amp; Shohl

Jones Day

Squire Sanders &amp; Dempsey

Thompson Hine

Vorys Sater Seymour &amp; Pease

**Recommended**

Calfee Halter &amp; Griswold

Chester Willcox &amp; Saxbe

Faruki Ireland &amp; Cox

Hahn Loeser &amp; Parks

Porter Wright Morris &amp; Arthur

Taft Stettinius &amp; Hollister

Tucker Ellis &amp; West

Zeiger Tigges &amp; Little

## Local litigation stars

**David Alexander**Squire Sanders & Dempsey  
Complex Commercial Litigation**Michael Carpenter**Carpenter & Lipps  
Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury**Thomas Demitrack**Jones Day  
Antitrust**Charles Faruki**Faruki Ireland & Cox  
Commercial Litigation**Jose Feliciano**Baker & Hostetler  
Commercial Litigation, Products Liability, White-Collar Crime**John Gall**Squire Sanders & Dempsey  
Intellectual Property, Professional Liability**Steven Goldfarb**Hahn Loeser & Parks  
Complex Commercial Litigation**David Grauer**Squire Sanders & Dempsey  
Health Law**Theodore Grossman**Jones Day  
Products Liability**David Hooker**Thompson Hine  
Commercial Litigation**Elizabeth "Liza" Kessler**Jones Day  
Products Liability**Thomas Kilbane**Squire Sanders & Dempsey  
Appellate, Commercial Litigation**Damond Mace**Squire Sanders & Dempsey  
General Commercial Litigation, Product Liability**Patrick McCartan**Jones Day  
Commercial Litigation**Joseph Morford**Tucker Ellis & West  
Products Liability**John Newman**Jones Day  
Securities**Stephen O'Bryan**Taft Stettinius & Hollister  
Commercial Litigation, Securities**Anthony O'Malley**Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease  
Commercial Litigation, Health Care Litigation**Robert Pitcairn**Katz Teller Brant & Hild  
Antitrust, Insurance, Products Liability, Securities**Michael Reed**Zeiger Tigges & Little  
Commercial Litigation**James Robenalt**Thompson Hine  
Commercial Litigation**Mark Ruehlmann**Squire Sanders & Dempsey  
Commercial Litigation**Charles Saxbe**Chester Willcox & Saxbe  
General Civil Litigation**Hugh Stanley**Tucker Ellis & West  
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation**David Wallace**Taft Stettinius & Hollister  
Commercial Litigation, Securities**Mark Wallach**Calfee Halter & Griswold  
Complex Commercial Litigation**Daniel Warren**Baker & Hostetler  
Complex Commercial Litigation, Securities**Robin Weaver**Squire Sanders & Dempsey  
Complex Commercial Litigation, Products Liability**William Wilkinson**Thompson Hine  
Commercial Litigation**John Zeiger**Zeiger Tigges & Little  
Complex Commercial Litigation

## Future stars

Marcia Andrew  
Taft Stettinius & HollisterPierre Bergeron  
Squire Sanders & DempseyJeanne Cors  
Taft Stettinius & HollisterBradley Ferrell  
Zeiger Tigges & LittleSteven Friedman  
Squire Sanders & DempseyKeith Shumate  
Squire Sanders & DempseyMartha Sullivan  
Squire Sanders & Dempsey

# Ohio

**B**ridging the Midwest and the Northeast litigation markets, Ohio's two key legal hubs are Cleveland and Cincinnati, both with a balanced mix of national firms and specialty boutiques. In July 2009, the Supreme Court of Ohio made headlines when it announced a decision holding that a law firm, as an entity, does not engage in the practice of law and therefore cannot commit legal malpractice directly. The Court also held that a law firm cannot be vicariously liable for legal malpractice unless one of its principals or associate attorneys is found liable.

## Highly recommended firms

### Baker & Hostetler

Baker & Hostetler has an international presence, but still maintains a significant footprint throughout Ohio, with three offices in the state's key northern, central and southern markets of Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, respectively. Peers agree that "they are one of the biggest firms in the state, and one of the most visible."

José Feliciano is an active trial lawyer with more than 30 years of experience in complex commercial and employment litigation. One peer states "he brings in a lot of business, [and] he's big in the Hispanic community." He has tried cases involving products liability, construction, shareholders' derivative suits, contracts, and commercial issues. His reputation among peers is favorable as well, with one of them remarking, "I'm glad to see he's listed; he's a fighter but in a very righteous way." Daniel Warren practices complex business litigation, representing financial institutions and other public companies, private organizations, and individuals in major business disputes. He maintains an active appellate practice as well, having argued approximately twenty appeals.

### Dinsmore & Shohl

Dinsmore & Shohl makes its debut as a highly recommended firm in the Ohio rankings this year. The firm has over 200 lawyers throughout its offices in Cleveland, Dayton and Columbus, as well as its Cincinnati headquarters. The firm has also established itself in the nearby states of Kentucky, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. One client raves "they are one of the premier law firms in Cincinnati and in all Ohio, and they are solid in every respect." Another client explains that "they secured us such a satisfactory result in such an efficient, cost-effective manner that we voluntarily paid them a bonus for a job well done."

Praise runs deep for the firm's individual litigators as well. Clients point to Mark Bissinger and Alan Abes as being "a step ahead of the competition. They are the kind of lawyers that know when the other side is fibbing a little and stretching the truth. They remember tidbits that help bring wayward discussions back to reality." Clients also

mention Jeffery Hinebaugh and Toby Schisler as being "very focused, very cost-effective and very likable people. If you have a difficult attorney on the other side, they don't create havoc. They're very professional."

### Jones Day

Jones Day is the biggest firm in Ohio, and one of the largest in the world. Peers accept the firm's reign as the premier Ohio firm almost as a given. "They operate on a national level – they're almost too big for Ohio! – but they still set the standard for litigation in the state," claims one peer.

In the firm's Cleveland headquarters, Thomas Demitrack litigates antitrust cases, including price-fixing, vertical restraints and monopolization claims, as well as intellectual property cases raising antitrust issues. Demitrack is the coordinator of firm's antitrust practice. Recent clients include Ascension Health, Bayer, Eastman, Madison Square Garden, and R.J. Reynolds. A peer calls Kenneth Adamo "the best and most admirable intellectual property litigator I know." Adamo made news in 2008, when it was announced that he would defend Procter & Gamble against allegations of patent infringement filed by Playtex concerning that company's tampon applicator technology. Adamo swiftly filed counterclaims. Competitors also mention Robert Walker, who handles cases at the trial and appellate levels involving product liability, commercial law, trade secrets, insurance coverage, ERISA, OSHA, environmental, and wrongful discharge matters.

### Squire Sanders & Dempsey

A global firm, Squire Sanders & Dempsey is also home to some of Ohio's top trial lawyers. The firm provides comprehensive services to clients in the key markets of Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati. One peer observes "the [Squire Sanders] lawyers in Ohio can give any of the national lawyers a run for their money."

Peers and clients agree on the undisputed talent of Thomas Kilbane. "He's the one everybody knows," confirms one local competitor, while a client raves that Kilbane "is very sharp, very down-to-earth, and has a keen sense of when you should settle and when you should go to trial." Kilbane, along

with Damond Mace and Steven Friedman, is currently representing American Greetings against Cookie Jar Entertainment in a \$195 million case involving a settlement agreement pending in two courts regarding the Strawberry Shortcake and the Care Bears properties. Peers refer to Robin Weaver as "almost a throwback in that he will go to trial; he's an actual trial lawyer, which is increasingly rare." Weaver is a generalist, with an increasing focus on environmental litigation. Stacy Ballin focuses on complex commercial litigation including all phases of discovery, trial and appellate practice.

### Thompson Hine

Formed in 1911, Thompson Hine now boasts approximately 400 lawyers in eight offices. Within Ohio, the firm has outposts in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton and Columbus, and beyond the state's borders it has offices in New York, Washington D.C., Atlanta and Brussels. Although it also offers bankruptcy and intellectual property services, its litigation work is largely centered around its antitrust and general commercial practices.

Managing partner David Hooker is seen by peers as "a fine business litigator" and "still very active, and as persuasive and on top of things as ever. Now that's a real trial lawyer." Steven Kaufman is also seen as "a trooper" by peers for his work trying complex civil litigation cases, including civil rights, class action, constitutional, employment, intellectual property, products liability, professional liability, real estate and securities matters.

### Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease

Founded in 1909, Columbus-based Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease has now grown to include over 350 lawyers working in offices in Cleveland, Columbus, Akron and Cincinnati as well as Washington D.C., Alexandria, Virginia, and Houston, Texas. Peers call them "the dominant firm in Columbus- a central Ohio powerhouse." In July 2009, the firm scored a major victory defending Planned Parenthood, a client of the firm's for over 50 years, in a controversial case pending in Ohio, in which the parents of a 14-year-old girl who underwent an abortion at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Cincinnati sued the clinic and the doctor who performed the abortion, claiming they were not diligent enough in following the state's parental notification laws. As part of their suit, the family filed papers demanding Planned Parenthood turn over records of all abortions performed on girls aged 13 or younger, claiming the records would show a pattern of law-breaking. The firm deemed this an invasion of privacy, and the Ohio Supreme Court agreed, denying the family's records request.

Cincinnati-based Daniel Buckley provided lead counsel on the Planned Parenthood case. Buckley practices in the areas of business

litigation, complex litigation and class actions, in addition to medical malpractice defense work.

#### Recommended firms

##### Calfee Halter & Griswold

With offices in Cleveland and Columbus, Calfee Halter & Griswold has 45 litigators, over 20 of whom have sub-specialty practices, including securities and SEC enforcement defense, labor and employment litigation, construction, and business torts. The firm also has a thriving insurance recovery practice, in which it often represents clients against insurance companies on coverage disputes. **Mitchell Blair** is co-chair of the firm's Litigation group and heads the Securities Litigation practice. He litigates complex disputes, with special emphasis on securities litigation and enforcement, and corporate investigations. **Mark Wallach** litigates and tries complex business disputes,

generated a significant amount of interest since its formation in 1989 for being a strictly litigation-based entity. The firm litigates commercial disputes of all types, including antitrust, securities, intellectual property, class actions, e-business and technology, First Amendment/free speech, environmental, employment discrimination, and products liability cases. **Charles Faruki** earns almost unanimous peer praise for being "a real trial lawyer," and "absolutely one of the best in the state." Clients include The Procter & Gamble Company, Reed Elsevier, Inc., Iams Company, Morgan Stanley, Harley-Davidson, and United Parcel Service.

##### Hahn Loeser & Parks

Hahn Loeser is a full-service law firm that, for nearly 90 years, has provided sophisticated and creative counsel to Fortune 500 corporations and privately held businesses, non-profit institutions,

firm's growing presence: "they've been taking the bigger firms by surprise in this state." A full-service firm, Porter Wright now includes over 100 attorneys practicing antitrust, appellate, complex commercial, intellectual property, and securities litigation.

##### Taft Stettinius & Hollister

Formed in 1885, Taft Stettinius & Hollister practices from four Ohio offices located in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus and Dayton. The firm has expanded its Midwest presence through offices in nearby communities like Indianapolis and Covington, Kentucky, and has entered the Southwest market with a Phoenix office. The firm also has an outpost in Beijing. In its home state of Ohio, the firm is "well regarded and respected" by local peers. Partner-in-charge **Stephen O'Bryan** concentrates his practice on all types of litigation and in public law and environmental matters.

##### Tucker Ellis & West

Cleveland firm Tucker Ellis & West makes its debut in the Ohio rankings this year. Peers acknowledge the firm is "a real up-and-coming player, especially in products liability matters." Since opening in 2003, Tucker Ellis has grown to include 141 lawyers in its offices in Cleveland and Columbus, as well as its two offices in California and one in Colorado. Products liability co-chair **Joseph Morford** focuses on representing major corporations in mass tort litigation.

##### Zeiger Tigges & Little

Columbus boutique firm Zeiger Tigges & Little concentrates solely on litigation, specializing in business and commercial law, with a special focus in media, First Amendment law, legal malpractice defense, securities, intellectual property and unfair competition. Peers at larger firms commend Zeiger Tigges for being "a great boutique, with frequent case referrals from bigger firms and the trial talent to handle them all." Presiding partner **John Zeiger** has extensive trial experience in a broad range of complex litigation, focusing primarily on defense of major business disputes, securities law claims, legal professional liability, and media law litigation.

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concentrating on corporate, business torts, utilities and public law litigation.

##### Chester Willcox & Saxbe

Columbus-based Chester Willcox & Saxbe traces its roots back to 1884, and today remains a staple of central Ohio litigation. The firm maintains a healthy trial and appellate practice in both the state and federal courts. Within the firm, **Charles Saxbe** represents clients in all manner of civil litigation, and he has been the principal counsel in numerous jury trials. He has appeared before the Ohio Supreme Court, the Ohio Court of Appeals, and the Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals. **John Chester** represents clients in all aspects of litigation including trial and appellate work.

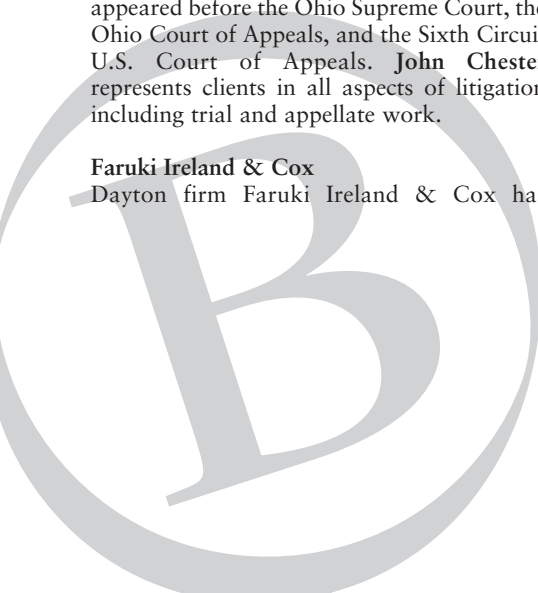
##### Faruki Ireland & Cox

Dayton firm Faruki Ireland & Cox has

governmental entities and individuals. With offices in Cleveland, Columbus, and Akron, the firm routinely serves as regional and Ohio counsel on litigation in a wide variety of matters. The firm also has a growing practice in Southwest Florida, with teams located in Naples and Fort Myers. **Steven Goldfarb** has a national litigation practice which in recent years has focused on the representation of major public companies in high-stakes litigation brought across the country, with an emphasis on the title insurance, hospitality and real estate franchising, and financial services industries.

##### Porter Wright Morris & Arthur

Columbus-based Porter Wright Morris & Arthur was founded over 160 years ago and has since grown to include four offices in Ohio as well as one in Florida and one Washington D.C. One peer sums up the



**DAVID W ALEXANDER****SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.**

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David W Alexander's practice is focused on complex commercial litigation with particular emphasis on highly technical, multiparty business disputes, corporate governance, financial services, insurance coverage and fiduciary responsibilities. Mr Alexander represents both public and private corporations before federal, state and local courts and regulatory agencies. He has broad experience with appellate arguments, mediation and international arbitration including appointment as arbitrator for the International Chamber of Commerce, International Court of Arbitration.

Mr Alexander's recent experience includes internal investigations and litigation concerning accounting irregularities and financial performance; cases involving accounting fraud, SEC investigations, RICO and parallel criminal investigations; and business acquisitions including environmental liabilities as well as construction litigation and arbitration. Mr Alexander has also recently litigated unfair competition, trade secret and trademark disputes. He has advised boards of directors and special committees in respect of their duties.

Prior to joining the firm, Mr Alexander spent two years serving as a judicial clerk for the United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio. He has been designated a Master Lawyer by the American Inns of Court, Robert M Duncan Chapter. Mr Alexander is named in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Ohio Super Lawyers*.

Mr Alexander serves as chair of the Columbus Bar Association's Civility Committee, handling lawyer and judicial complaints concerning lawyer civility. He also serves on the Columbus Bar Foundation and Columbus Legal Aid Society Board of Trustees. He also serves as a mentor for newly admitted attorneys in a program sponsored by the Ohio Supreme Court

He received his JD, with honors, from The Ohio State University and his BA, *cum laude*, from Wittenberg University.

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**AREA OF PRACTICE:** Complex Litigation, including Intellectual Property and Antitrust

**LAW SCHOOL:** Ohio State University, JD *cum laude*, 1973

**UNDERGRADUATE:** University of Cincinnati, BA, Political Science, *summa cum laude*, 1971

Charlie is a trial lawyer. He concentrates his practice in the area of business litigation. He has represented numerous corporations in litigation in state and federal courts, and before the SEC, the Ohio Division of Securities, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, and other federal and state agencies. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, the American Bar Foundation, and the Ohio State Bar Foundation. He is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is a past president of the Dayton Bar Association, and of the Dayton Chapter, Federal Bar Association.

He has twice been voted by his peers as one of the Top Ten Lawyers in Ohio, in Ohio's Super Lawyers' Survey; is on the "Dayton's Most Powerful" list, based on a survey conducted by the Dayton Business Journal of Dayton-area CEO's and other community leaders, and was selected as one of the most influential people in Greater Dayton (one of only three lawyers on the list). He is listed in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in American Law*, *Who's Who in the Midwest*, *Who's Who of Emerging Leaders in America*, and *The Best Lawyers in America*, and in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*. Charlie is the author of numerous articles published in law reviews and professional journals, has spoken numerous times at continuing legal education programs and educational seminars for businesses.

Charlie has tried a wide variety of business cases to juries. He has tried to judgment intellectual property cases (having tried patent, trademark and copyright cases), and cases involving antitrust, employment, product liability, breach of contract or warranty, terminated distributorships, trade secrets, and fraud claims, and various statutory theories.

He has also tried injunction cases, handled numerous class actions, shareholder litigation, multidistrict litigation, and insurance coverage disputes. He has argued cases in the Supreme Court of Ohio, and in the Second, Fourth, Sixth, Eighth and Ninth Federal Circuit Courts of Appeals, and in the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Among his many activities, Charlie chairs the Bar Examination Committee of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, and is Chair of the board of governors of the Antitrust Law Section of the Ohio State Bar Association, and is immediate past Chair of the Federal Courts and Practice Committee of the Ohio State Bar Association. He has also been an adjunct professor of the School of Law, University of Dayton, teaching antitrust.

## THOMAS S KILBANE

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Thomas S Kilbane has more than 30 years' trial experience in litigating highly technical disputes with particular emphasis on antitrust, contract, construction and securities cases. Mr Kilbane served as the global chair of the firm's litigation group for 17 years. He has tried numerous cases in federal and state courts. He is experienced in employing ADR techniques to successfully settle significant commercial disputes.

Mr Kilbane is a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers (top 500 trial lawyers in the nation), the American College of Trial Lawyers and the American Bar Foundation. He is a member of the American College of Barristers and America's Registry of Outstanding Professionals. Mr Kilbane is recognized as a top trial lawyer in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Guide to the World's Leading Litigation Lawyers*, *Guide to the Leading US Litigation Lawyers*, *Best of the US* and *Benchmark: Litigation*. He is also recognized in *The International Who's Who of Professionals*, *Who's Who in the World*, *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in American Law* and *Global Counsel 3000*. Mr Kilbane is one of the *Lawdragon 3000* Leading Lawyers in America, a Top 100 Super Lawyer in *Ohio Super Lawyers* and a highly recommended dispute resolution lawyer in *Practical Law Company's Which Lawyer? Yearbook*.

Mr Kilbane is the author of *Litigating Highly Technical, Multi-Party Commercial Disputes: An Inside Look at Defending a Securities Lawsuit*. He is a life member of both the Sixth Circuit and Eighth District Judicial Conferences. Mr Kilbane is an AAA arbitrator and also serves on the Ohio Panel of Neutrals and the national Construction Panel for the CPR Institute for Dispute Resolution. He is also highly recommended for Alternative Dispute Resolution in *The Best Lawyers in America*. Mr Kilbane is also a member of the American Bar Association's Forum Committee on the Construction Industry and is the former vice chair of its ADR Committee for Legislation. He is the Northern Ohio chair of the United States Supreme Court Historical Society.

Mr Kilbane graduated in 1963 from John Carroll University, BA magna cum laude (valedictorian) and in 1966 from Northwestern University school of Law, JD, where he was a member of the editorial board of the *Northwestern Law Review*. He is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, all the federal courts of appeal and the Supreme Court of Ohio.

Mr Kilbane served as a US Army captain in Vietnam, where he was awarded the Bronze Star. He is married to Sally Conway Kilbane and is the proud father of five children: Sarah, Thomas, Eamon, James and Carlin.

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Damond R Mace is a deputy practice area coordinator of the firm's Litigation Practice Group, comprised of 200 plus lawyers worldwide. He is a creative and passionate trial lawyer with extensive experience successfully representing clients in commercial contract disputes, general commercial litigation, UCC, class actions, products liability, premises liability and tort actions. He is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and has been repeatedly named in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers*.

His diverse litigation experience also includes real estate, trademark/trade secrets, environmental/pollution, construction, wrongful death, banking, wrongful discharge, royalty disputes and antitrust. He has successfully handled many jury trials and appeals in state and federal courts across the country, as well as numerous arbitration, mediation and other alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

An honors chemistry major in undergraduate school, Mr Mace has used his scientific knowledge and analytical skills to simplify complex issues for juries and judges.

In 2005 he obtained a US\$9.3 million verdict in favor of a client involved in a contract dispute over the supply of integrated circuits. In 2001 he was awarded the *National Law Journal's* Defense Win of the Month and one of the Top Defense Wins of 2001 for a unanimous defense jury verdict obtained on a US\$176 million claim in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Texas.

Mr Mace is a member of the American Bar Association's Litigation Section and is a master bencher in the Judge John M Manos Inn of Court.

He received his BA, *summa cum laude*, from Wittenberg University and his JD, *cum laude*, from Harvard University.

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Known for his highly strategic and cost-effective approach to business litigation, Mark Wallach is one of the top business trial lawyers in Northern Ohio. Co-chair of Calfee's 45 lawyer litigation group, Mark has tried cases for more than 30 years in the state and federal courts of Ohio and numerous other states. He has extensive experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants in corporate litigation, as well as in mediations and arbitrations.

Mark's trial experience includes a number of business tort cases, particularly those involving fraud, misrepresentation, professional malpractice, and unfair competition. He has handled dozens of injunctive matters, as well as actions for writs of mandamus and prohibition, in both trial courts and courts of appeal. Cases involving consultant liability, particularly in the context of computer systems installation, have been an area of particular interest and concentration.

One of the most active advocates in the Ohio Supreme Court, Mark has argued nearly two dozen cases there involving issues such as zoning, state constitutional challenges, and statutes of limitations. He has also argued appeals in multiple Ohio state courts of appeal, several federal circuits, and the supreme courts of other states.

In recent years, Mark has spent increasing amounts of his practice in representation concerning land use and development, both on behalf of developers seeking to promote the development of important parcels, and to prevent developments with potential adverse consequences to surrounding landowners. He has also seen his practice grow in the representation of business plaintiffs, including cases filed with various alternative fee structures.

Mark received his undergraduate education at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, where he graduated with a BA *magna cum laude* and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa (1971), and his JD at Harvard Law School *cum laude* (1974). He is consistently recognized as one of the top trial lawyers in his region in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Ohio's Super Lawyers*, and *Inside Business Magazine's* Leading Lawyers. Mark has also been listed for many years in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in American Law*. Mark is the chair of the board of The Sculpture Center, a member of the executive committee of the Cleveland Chapter of the American Constitution Society, and a singer and board member of the Western Reserve Chorale.