

BRYAN R. WALTERS

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Education

University of Michigan Law School
Ann Arbor, Michigan
J.D., *cum laude*, 1997
Contributing Editor, *Michigan Law Review*

Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan
B.A., *magna cum laude*, International Relations, 1995
Distinguished Freshman Scholar (full academic scholarship)

Legal Employment

Varnum
Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1999
Partner

United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Law Clerk for the Honorable Gordon J. Quist, 1998–1999

Practice Areas

Litigation, with emphasis in the following areas:

- Federal court and bankruptcy court litigation
- UCC Article 2 (sale of goods) and Article 9 (secured transactions) issues
- Noncompete agreement/trade secret disputes
- Mediation and arbitration of business disputes
- Property Tax Appeals

Professional Affiliations

Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States

Federal Bar Association, Western Michigan Chapter (Executive Committee;
Bench/Bar Conference Steering Committee)

State Bar of Michigan (Litigation section; Appellate section)

State Bar of Illinois

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Grand Rapids Bar Association (Litigation section)

Honors

Recognized as one of *Michigan's Rising Stars* in Litigation, 2008

Community Involvement

American Civil Liberties Union, West Michigan chapter
(Board of Directors, 2006 - 2007; Lawyers Committee, 2006 - present)

Fountain Street Church (Governing Board, 2010 - present; Officers Committee, 2011 - present)

Northview Education Foundation (Trustee, 2011 - present)

Northview Little League (Coach, 2008 - present)

Publications

"Can Your Company Employees Keep a (Trade) Secret?" *Grand Rapids Business Journal* (June 20, 2011)

"It Would Be Wise to Consider Making a Federal Case of It," *Grand Rapids Business Journal* (June 1, 2010)

"Protect Your Company's Confidential Information," *Grand Rapids Business Journal* (November 28, 2005)

"Judicial Clerkships and the Salary Wars," *The Federal Lawyer*, Vol. 48 No. 5 (June 2001)

Representative Matters

Federal Court Litigation

Stryker Corporation v Monster Medic Inc (United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan, Honorable Robert Holmes Bell): represented Defendant in patent infringement claim.

Simon v Gerdau MacSteel Inc (United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Honorable Phillip J. Shefferly): represented Defendant in preference dispute.

Collins & Aikman Corp v Summit Polymers Inc (United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Honorable Steven W. Rhodes): represented Defendant in preference/security interest dispute.

*Ralston v CU*Answers, Inc* (United States District Court for the District of Utah, Honorable Dee Benson): represented Defendant in breach of contract claim.

Buffalo Molded Plastics, Inc v Plastic Mold Technology, Inc (United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Honorable Thomas P. Agresti): represented Defendant in security interest dispute.

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Virginia M. Damon Trust v Wipfli Ullrich Bertelson LLP (United States District Court for Western District of Michigan, Honorable Gordon J. Quist): represented Defendant in accounting malpractice claim.

Mid-West Spring and Stamping Inc v Gentex Corp (United States Bankruptcy Court for Northern District of Indiana, Honorable Harry C. Dees, Jr.): represented Defendant in breach of contract claim tried to court.

Star Forge Manufacturing, Inc v FC Mason Inc (United States District Court for Northern District of Illinois, Honorable Michael W. Dobbins): represented Defendant in civil RICO/fraud claim.

Carson v Mawer (United States District Court for Western District of Michigan, Honorable Robert Holmes Bell): represented Plaintiff in civil rights claim tried to jury.

Uniform Commercial Code Disputes

J.L. French Automotive Castings, Inc v Magna Powertrain USA, Inc (arbitrated by James Martin by agreement of parties): represented seller in breach of contract claim tried to arbitrator.

Acemco, Inc v Ryerson Tull Coil Processing (Muskegon County Circuit Court, Honorable William C. Marietti): represented seller in breach of contract claim and related appeals.

Creative Wood Products, Inc v Universal Forest Products Eastern Division, Inc (Genesee County Circuit Court, Honorable Robert M. Ransom): represented buyer in breach of contract claim.

Tower Automotive Products Co, Inc v UNOVA Industrial Automation Systems Inc (Kent County Circuit Court, Honorable Paul Sullivan): represented buyer in breach of contract claim.

Mid-West Spring and Stamping Inc v Gentex Corp (United States Bankruptcy Court for Northern District of Indiana, Honorable Harry C. Dees, Jr.): represented buyer in breach of contract claim tried to court.

Admiral Broach Co Inc v Tower Automotive Inc (Macomb County Circuit Court, arbitrated by Lawrence Nahas upon stipulation of parties): represented buyer in breach of contract claim tried to arbitrator.

Noncompete Agreement / Trade Secret Disputes

Abaco Partners LLC v Hunt (Kent County Circuit Court, Honorable Mark A. Trusock): represented Plaintiff in noncompete claim.

Spartan Graphics, Inc v Wagamon (Kent County Circuit Court, Honorable Dennis C. Kolenda): represented Defendant in noncompete claim.

Roman Eng'g Servs, Inc v Orsette (Kent County Circuit Court, Honorable Donald A. Johnston): represented Plaintiff in trade secret claim.

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Charter Industries, Inc v Martinez (Kent County Circuit Court, Honorable Dennis C. Kolenda): represented Defendant in noncompete claim.

Kool Chevrolet Inc v Alpine Pontiac-Buick Inc (Kent County Circuit Court, Honorable George S. Buth): represented Defendant in trade secret claim.

Burke E Porter Co v Reuben (Kent County Circuit Court, Honorable Dennis C. Kolenda): represented Plaintiff in trade secret claim.

National-Standard Co v Burton (Kent County Circuit Court, Honorable George S. Buth): represented Plaintiff in trade secret claim.

Arbitrations

J.L. French Automotive Castings, Inc v Magna Powertrain USA, Inc (arbitrated by James Martin by agreement of parties): represented Plaintiff in breach of contract claim tried to arbitrator.

AO Smith Corporation v Tower Automotive, Inc. (Center for Public Resources, Arbitrators Theodore St. Antoine, Prof. Jay Grenig, and George Roumell): represented Defendant in arbitration of claims under asset purchase agreement.

Longford Health Sources Inc v Spectrum Health – Kent Community Campus (AAA, Thomas Koernke): represented Defendant in breach of contract claim tried to arbitrator.

Admiral Broach Co Inc v Tower Automotive Inc (arbitrated by Lawrence Nahas by agreement of parties): represented Defendant in breach of contract claim tried to arbitrator.

Tower Automotive Inc v AO Smith Corporation (Center for Public Resources, Arbitrators Jerome Falk, Jonathan Marks, and Honorable Abner Mikva): represented Plaintiff in breach of contract/fraud claim regarding asset purchase agreement tried to arbitration panel.

Property Tax Appeals

Michigan Dep't of Treasury v Frisch Properties LLC (Michigan Tax Tribunal): represented Respondent at hearing on property classification appeal.

Michigan Dep't of Treasury v Kruger Commodities Inc (Michigan Tax Tribunal): represented Respondent in obtaining dismissal of property classification appeals.

Monroe LLC v City of Kentwood (Michigan Tax Tribunal): representing Petitioner in appeal of valuation and assessment of multiple parcels of industrial property.