

MICHAEL S. McELWEE

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Education

Wayne State University Law School
Detroit, Michigan
J.D., 1983
Editor, Moot Court Executive Board
Recipient, Arthur Neef Memorial Award
Recipient, Mark W. Johnson Memorial Award

Thomas Aquinas College
Santa Paula, California
1975 -1977

Grand Valley State University
Allendale, Michigan
B.A., 1979

Legal Employment

Varnum
Grand Rapids, Michigan 1986
Partner

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, DC
1983 - 1985

Law Clerk to Honorable David E. Nims, Jr.
United States Bankruptcy Court, Western District of Michigan
1985 - 1986

Admitted to Practice:
United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan
Michigan Supreme Court

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Practice Area

Litigation and Bankruptcy

Professional Affiliations

State Bar of Michigan

Grand Rapids Bar Association

Kalamazoo Bar Association

Community Involvement

Opera Grand Rapids (Board)

Turnaround Manager's Association, Grand Rapids Chapter (Director)

Frequent commentator on local radio and television, National Public Radio, and other venues

Representative Matters

Southern Michigan Beef Company v Dean Foods Corporation (W.D. of Michigan). Represented Southern Michigan Beef against Dean Foods in a case involving the "bad faith" breach of a long-term contract. Won a jury verdict after a 2-week trial and collected \$3,800,000 after all appeals were exhausted by Dean Foods.

Hechinger Investment Trust (formerly, Hechinger Corporation) v Universal Forest Products. Defended Universal Forest Products in a \$16,500,000 preference action in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Delaware.

Jack Barreca v Lotte U.S.A., Inc., (U.S. District, Denver, CO). Represented Lotte U.S.A. in a patent infringement action involving Sobe "Energy" center-filled gum products sold through 7-11 Stores.

Standard Federal Bank v Michigana Farms, et al., (W.D. Michigan). Represented Standard Federal Bank in a \$18,500,000 loan enforcement action against Michigana Farms, a 9,500 head dairy operation.

Lakeshore Mining & Equipment Co. v Getman Corporation (W.D. Michigan). Represented Getman Corporation in a \$27,000,000 contract termination case filed by Lakeshore. Obtained a complete dismissal on a Motion for Summary Judgment.

Thomas A. Bruinsma, Trustee v Daniel Broucek, et al. (U.S. Bankruptcy Court). Currently representing the Bankruptcy Trustee in a \$135,000,000 Ponzi scheme case.