

CHRISTOPHER J. ZDARSKY

SHAREHOLDER

Grand Rapids
616 752 7210
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Christopher J. Zdarsky is a trial lawyer who represents businesses and individuals—including trustees and other fiduciaries—who are involved in complex business disputes. Chris supports clients at all stages of a business conflict, beginning with counseling clients before disputes arise, then devising and implementing litigation and trial strategies, and navigating appeals and judgment enforcements when necessary.

For more than a decade, Chris has litigated commercial disputes including cases involving breach of contract, implied contract claims, shareholder oppression, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, conversion, and other business torts.

In addition to regularly appearing in state and federal courts throughout Michigan and Illinois, Chris is also regularly trusted by national law firms to serve as local and co-counsel in business disputes in Michigan. His experience extends to several subject areas, including insurance coverage, real estate, probate, employment, construction, municipal law, zoning and land use, and financial services.

Chris has served as a faculty member for the Hillman Trial Advocacy Program, an annual program sponsored by the Federal Bar Association of the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan.

Chris is a Shareholder practicing in Butzel's Grand Rapids office. He graduated from the Chicago-Kent College of Law, *cum laude*, where he was a member of the college's nationally ranked trial advocacy team and was a national semi-finalist for the American Bar Association's annual trial competition.

Primary Practice Areas

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

Appellate Law

Appellate Specialty Team

Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Trade Secret & Non-Compete Specialty Team

All Related Practice Areas

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

Appellate Law

Appellate Specialty Team

Business & Commercial Litigation

Construction

Construction Litigation

Employment Litigation

Labor and Employment

Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Non-Compete & Trade Secret

Real Estate Litigation

Trade Secret & Non-Compete Specialty Team

CHRISTOPHER J. ZDARSKY

Outside of the office, Chris spends time with his family, plays music, and continues to root for Chicago sports teams.

Credentials

EDUCATION

Chicago-Kent College of Law, J.D., *cum laude*

University of Wisconsin-Madison, B.A., Journalism & Mass Communication and Political Science

ADMISSIONS

Illinois

Michigan

Supreme Court of the United States

United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois

United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan

MEMBERSHIPS

State Bar of Michigan – Litigation Section, Governing Council Member

Hillman Trial Advocacy Program – Faculty Member

Grand Rapids Bar Association

Western District of Michigan Federal Bar Association

American Bar Association

CHRISTOPHER J. ZDARSKY

Awards & Recognitions

The Best Lawyers in America® - Commercial Litigation, Litigation - Banking and Finance - 2024, 2026;
Appellate Practice, 2026

Michigan *Super Lawyers* - Rising Stars - Business Litigation, 2020-2023

Grand Rapids Magazine - Top Lawyer, Litigation-Commercial, 2023

Illinois *Super Lawyers* - Rising Stars - Business Litigation, 2014-2018