

Daniel V. Barnett represents businesses and individuals in complex litigation matters throughout Michigan. His practice areas include business, commercial, and civil litigation, real estate litigation, construction litigation, and Tribal Law.

Daniel is a strategic litigator who regularly advises business and tribal clients in matters regarding litigation, negotiation, and general operations. His work has resulted in the enforcement of employment covenant (non-compete) clauses for employers, releasing employees from employment covenants with former employers, and the resolution of breach of contract actions. He also has experience in complex business litigation, including shareholder actions, breach of commercial and development contracts, and indemnity agreements. Mr. Barnett appears—and has accumulated a record of success—in courts all over Michigan, including the United States District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts. He has also appeared and prevailed in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Daniel is a Shareholder practicing in Butzel's Grand Rapids office. He is a recipient of the 2023 Grand Rapids Bar Association 3-in-10 Award and has been named as a 2023 American Institute of Trial Lawyers Litigator of the Year in Civil Litigation. Prior to his legal career, Daniel served as the band director for Newaygo Public Schools from 2006 through 2013. Under his leadership, the Newaygo Marching Band won the Flight IV Michigan Competing Band Association State Championship in 2010 and 2012. Daniel was awarded Teacher of the Year for Newaygo County in 2011. After seven years as a teacher, Daniel left the profession to pursue a career in law.

Primary Practice Areas

Construction
Litigation and Dispute
Resolution
Real Estate
Tribal Law Specialty Team

All Related Practice Areas

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

Business & Commercial Litigation

Construction

Construction Litigation

Labor and Employment

Leasing

Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Non-Compete & Trade Secret

Real Estate

Real Estate Litigation

Tribal Law Specialty Team

DANIEL V. BARNETT

In his spare time, Daniel enjoys spending time with his wife, Emily, two sons, Kalvin and Isaac, daughter, Elisabeth, and dog, Swarley. He also enjoys playing basketball, attending sporting events, boating, traveling, and spending time outdoors.

Credentials

EDUCATION

Michigan State University College of Law, J.D., magna cum laude

Central Michigan University, B.A.

ADMISSIONS

State Bar of Michigan - Business Law, Litigation, Real Property Law Sections

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 Western District of Michigan

Awards & Recognitions

Grand Rapids Bar Association - 3-in-10 Award, 2023

American Institute of Trial Lawyers - Litigator of the Year (Civil Litigation), 2023

