

FREDERICK (RICK) A. BERG

SHAREHOLDER

Detroit
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Frederick (Rick) A. Berg is a Shareholder practicing in Butzel's Detroit office. He concentrates his practice on commercial law and commercial litigation. Mr. Berg represents businesses and municipalities in an array of complex disputes, including his position as lead counsel for the City of Flint in the Flint Water Crisis cases.

Frederick (Rick) A. Berg is a Shareholder practicing in Butzel's Detroit office. He concentrates his practice on commercial law and commercial litigation.

Mr. Berg represents businesses and municipalities in an array of complex disputes, including his position as lead counsel for the City of Flint in the Flint Water Crisis cases. The defense of these claims includes many state and federal class action claims, including substantive due process claims for violation of the Equal Protection Clause under the 14th Amendment to the US Constitution and the Michigan equivalent, and personal injury claims asserting invasion of bodily integrity.

In addition to his recent experience with the Flint Water Crisis, Mr. Berg represents businesses in an array of complex commercial disputes, arising from equipment and transfer line purchase agreements, supply chain controversies, security agreements, trade secret disputes, environmental disputes, and other manufacturing/sale of goods contracts. He also litigates corporate governance issues and complex corporate disputes that involve majority and minority groups in limited liability companies and corporations, as well as media clients in connection with their commercial interests, dispute avoidance, and defamation issues.

Primary Practice Areas

**Business & Commercial
Litigation**
Media Law

All Related Practice Areas

Business & Commercial
Litigation
Media Law
Product Liability/Recall &
Warranty
Supply Chain Management
Automotive Industry Team
Construction
Environmental Litigation
Litigation and Dispute
Resolution
Media Litigation
Outside General Counsel
Services
Real Estate

FREDERICK (RICK) A. BERG

Mr. Berg has extensive experience drafting and reviewing complex commercial agreements, including purchase orders, supply agreements, equipment purchase agreements, manufacturing and license agreements, and manufacturer's representative agreements and security agreements. His practice has focused on the automobile manufacturing and supply industries, the construction industry, media companies, and numerous small- to medium-sized businesses.

He also counsels clients who deal with bankruptcy or insolvency issues, either as a debtor or as a creditor. Mr. Berg assists with secured creditor workouts, preference claims, fraudulent conveyance claims, pursuit of secured collateral, tool liens, protection of a client's right to payment from an insolvent customer, and other related disputes.

Mr. Berg is a graduate of the University of Michigan (B.A., 1981, with honors) in Ann Arbor, MI, and of Wayne State University Law School (J.D., 1985, *cum laude*). He is the recipient of Wayne State University Law School's Donald E. Barris Trial Advocacy Award. He is admitted to the Michigan State Bar, the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. He is a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute, the State Bar of Michigan's Debtor/Creditor Rights Committee, and the American Bankruptcy Institute's Secured Creditor and Uniform Commercial Code Committees.

Credentials

EDUCATION

University of Michigan Undergraduate 1981, B.A.

Wayne State University Law School Law School 1985, J.D.

ADMISSIONS

Michigan

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

MEMBERSHIPS

American Bankruptcy Institute

Debtor/Creditor Section State Bar of Michigan

FREDERICK (RICK) A. BERG

Salvation Army ARC Advisory Council, 1997–2009

St. Clare Finance Council

Detroit Athletic Club

Awards & Recognitions

The Best Lawyers in America® – Commercial Litigation, 2024, 2026; Construction Litigation, 2025; Real Estate Law, 2026; Construction Law, 2026; Litigation – Environmental, 2026; Product Liability Litigation – Defendants, 2026

Michigan *Super Lawyers*, 2006

DBusiness Top Lawyers, Business Litigation, 2013; Real Estate Law, 2017; Commercial Litigation, 2013, 2018 & 2022, 2023; Construction Litigation, 2018; Insurance Law, 2020–2023; Commercial Law 2021

Martindale-Hubbell® – AV Preeminent® Rated

Federal Bar Association Pro Bono Award (5-time recipient)

Donald E. Barris Trial Advocacy Award, Wayne State University Law School, 1985