

MICHAEL C. WARD

Partner



Michael has a broad practice with a particular focus on complex financial and commercial litigation matters, in federal and state courts, arbitrations, and out-of-court negotiations. He handles all phases of litigation, from strategic analysis of claims and defenses through trial preparation or settlement, including motion practice, fact and expert discovery, depositions and appeals.

Michael has also assisted in the representation of a number of sophisticated financial services firms, broker-dealers, registered representatives and investment advisory firms on a variety of issues, including employee recruiting and raiding, unfair competition, protection of trade secrets and other confidential information, the enforcement of non-solicitation agreements and breach of contract claims.

Michael's practice also includes representing plaintiffs and defendants of varying size and sophistication in securities matters. He has represented institutional investors asserting securities fraud claims under federal and state law in connection with banks' conduct as underwriter, seller and/or issuer of certain residential mortgage-backed securities. Conversely, he has represented class action defendants against allegations of false or misleading statements made in connection with securities offerings.

Prior to joining Barton LLP, Michael was a litigation associate with Wollmuth Maher & Deutsch LLP, where he successfully represented a range of clients from Fortune 100 financial institutions to closely-held companies and individuals in corporate and commercial matters, as well as reinsurance and insurance disputes.

Michael has been selected to Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch and, as published by Thomson Reuters, he has been recognized as a New York Super Lawyer Rising Star from 2017 to present in the area of business litigation.

Contact

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Education

St. John's University School of Law, J.D.

Duke University, B.A.; M.A. Studies

Admissions

New York

Southern District of New York

Eastern District of New York

New Jersey

District of New Jersey

Honors

Recognized by Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, 2024

Selected to Super Lawyers, Rising Stars 2017 to present

Practices

Arbitration

Commercial Litigation

Executive Compensation and Separation

Financial Services, Investment Funds, and Regulatory Compliance

Intellectual Property

Intellectual Property Litigation

Internal Investigations

Labor and Employment Disputes

Labor, Employment, and Executive Compensation

Securities Litigation, Regulatory Investigations, and Enforcement

Industry Experience

Construction

Entertainment

Finance

Investment Management

Logistics

Manufacturing and Distribution

Attorney Articles

["Are Cryptocurrencies Securities? The SEC is Answering the Question."](#) Co-author. Reuters Legal News / Westlaw Today. (March 21, 2022).

["SPACs and speculation: the changing legal liability of forward-looking statements."](#) Co-author. Reuters Legal News / Westlaw Today. (July 7, 2021).

["A Loan By Any Other Name..."](#) Co-author. Paradigm Magazine. Spring 2019

In the Media

["Edward Jones' Bid to Restrain Ameriprise Broker Backfires with \\$762K Arbitration Loss."](#) AdvisorHub. (November 8, 2021).