

Michael T. Brody

Of Counsel

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Areas of Focus

Antitrust and Competition
Law

Appellate and Supreme
Court

Business Litigation

Class Action



Overview

A strategic and skilled litigator, Michael Brody constructs compelling arguments to achieve the best possible litigation outcomes for clients. He is exceptionally experienced in arguing cases in federal and state appellate and trial courts. Mike has favorably resolved numerous complex financial disputes and has secured impressive wins defending consumer and antitrust class actions. Mike brings his background and experience in trying cases to bear in developing legal strategy for issues in the trial and appellate courts. He serves as Co-Chair of Jenner & Block's Class Action Practice.

When planning a legal strategy, Mike considers each case in the context of the client's current and future business needs and goals. He works closely with clients, co-counsel, and colleagues to define engagement goals and develop convincing arguments to win over courts, juries, aligned parties, and adversaries. Mike deftly handles all stages of a case, including class certification issues, expert analysis, motion practice, and settlements. He avoids getting bogged down in petty arguments, focusing instead on the nuances of procedure that can provide an advantage in litigation and aspects of the lawsuit that will resonate for judges and juries.

Mike is a past President of the Seventh Circuit Bar Association and currently chairs the Seventh Circuit Bar Foundation. He has taught the class action litigation course at the University of Chicago Law School for more than twenty years. He has an active pro bono practice and participates in the leadership of community organizations.



I analyze client issues with an eye to the future. I look for hints that help me craft creative solutions to problems and set my clients up for future success.”

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- Appellate and Supreme Court
- Business Litigation
- Class Action

Representative Matters

- Persuaded the Third Circuit to reverse the dismissal of an antitrust claim brought by four of the firm’s clients alleging defendants had conspired to increase the price of the products they purchased. The *Eggs* case addressed the contours of standing to sue under the antitrust laws.
- Stepped in to defend a substantial trade secrets victory on appeal, winning affirmance of \$140 million in compensatory damages and approval on remand of an additional \$140 million in punitive damages for his client.
- Persuaded a divided Seventh Circuit to reverse a jury verdict in an FDCPA case, upon finding that the plaintiff failed to prove she had standing to sue under Article III.
- On behalf of an individual, and later a class, convinced the Illinois courts, including ultimately the Illinois Supreme Court, to invalidate an Illinois regulation. The litigation brought relief to thousands of Illinois parents who had been wrongly labelled as neglectful by child welfare authorities.
- Joined the class action trial team to present and preserve legal arguments critical to the success of the defense, lead the post-trial briefing, which resulted in a trial victory, and defend that success in the appellate court and the Illinois Supreme Court.
- Represented parties in multiple antitrust class actions and pursued strategies consistent with the circumstances of the case and the clients’ wishes, including obtaining the dismissal of complaints, negotiating prompt settlements, and litigating the cases extensively.

Credentials

Admissions

- Illinois, 1983

Education

- University of Chicago Law School, JD, *cum laude*; Order of the Coif, 1983

- University of Wisconsin-Madison, BS, with distinction; Phi Beta Kappa, 1980

Court Admissions

- US Supreme Court, 2011
- Illinois Supreme Court, 1983
- US Court of Appeals, Third Circuit, 2017
- US Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit, 1984
- US Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, 2013
- US Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, 1984
- US District Court, Central District of Illinois, 2008
- US District Court, Northern District of Illinois, 1984
- US District Court, Northern District of Illinois (Trial Bar), 1987
- US District Court, Eastern District of Michigan, 2013
- US District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin, 2015

Clerkships

- Hon. Antonin Scalia, US Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, 1983-1984

Service / Recognition

Awards

- *The BTI Class Action Leaders*, 2026
- *Lawdragon 500 Leading Litigators in America*, 2026
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Commercial Litigation, 2015-2022, 2024, 2026
- *Illinois Super Lawyers*, 2005-2009; 2011-2024, in General Litigation and Business Litigation
- Jenner & Block Mentorship Award, 2013, 2020
- Jerold S. Solovy Award, 2015
- Leading Lawyers Network, Civil Appellate Law, 2004-2019; Class Action/Mass Tort Defense Law, 2004-2019; Commercial Litigation, 2004-2019
- *Legal 500*, Dispute Resolution - Appellate - Supreme Court (Federal and State), 2017, 2020, 2021
- United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois, Award for Excellence in Pro Bono Service, 2015
- Family Defense Center, Major Litigation Special Counsel Recognition, Award for Pursuing Justice for Families, 2013
- Evanston Community Foundation, Jim Kogen Foundation Spirit Award, 2018

Community

- Evanston Community Foundation Board, Board of Directors, Chair
- The Family Defense Center, Board of Directors, Member, 2009-2014
- (University of) Wisconsin Union—Association, Trustee, Member, Executive Committee
- University of Chicago Law School Lecturer in Law, 2000-Present

Service to the Bar

- American Bar Association
- Chicago Council of Lawyers
- Seventh Circuit Bar Association, President, 2015-2016; First Vice President, 2014-2015; Advisory Committee on Circuit Rules, 2014-2015; Secretary, 2011-2014; Board of Governors, 2009-2011; Chair, Committee on the Representation of Indigents, 2002-2009
- Seventh Circuit Bar Association Foundation, Trustee, 2014-present; Chair, 2017-present