

Jonathan M. Martone

Senior Attorney

Jonathan M. Martone is a Senior Attorney in the Firm's Birmingham office, where he has been an integral part of the Firm's Litigation Practice Group since 2009. Jonathan's practice focuses on a broad range of litigation and transaction-based commercial and personal legal service matters. Since 2013, Jonathan has been consistently named a "Rising Star" by Michigan Super Lawyers, a honor bestowed upon less than 2.5% of Michigan lawyers. Jonathan was recently recognized by the Oakland County Bar Association for the Bonnie Beutler Outstanding New Lawyer Award.

Corporate Counsel

As an entrepreneur himself co-founding and owning a men's clothing company, Jonathan employs his legal and real world experience in regularly counseling businesses with respect to a wide array of business matters, acting as "general counsel" for several clients on an ongoing basis. Jonathan has significant experience advising and assisting clients with day-to-day business and operational needs, such as contract drafting and negotiation, corporate formation, employment issues, real estate issues, intellectual property, and liability deterrence issues. Jonathan has also coordinated companies' national litigation, working with local counsel throughout the United States to successfully prosecute and defend a wide-array of legal matters.

Commercial Litigation

Jonathan has successfully represented businesses and individuals alike in all areas of business and commercial litigation, including commercial contract and warranty actions, real estate, zoning, and landlord/tenant disputes, shareholder disputes, health care law controversies, and municipal/education law litigation. Jonathan routinely appears in courts throughout the entire state of Michigan, at both the State and Federal level. Jonathan is also certified by the Michigan State Court Administrative Office as a Civil Facilitated Mediator and has extensive experience in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

Probate, Trust and Estate Counseling and Litigation

Jonathan has significant experience counseling and representing fiduciaries and interested parties in a wide range of probate, trust and estate matters, including high net-worth trusts and estates. Jonathan has successfully defended trustees and other fiduciaries in breach of fiduciary duty challenges, including obtaining the complete dismissal of the legal actions through court granted summary disposition. Additionally, Jonathan has considerable experience in the areas of undue influence challenges to estate plans and modifications. Jonathan has authored and co-authored several published articles in the areas of probate, trust and estate planning and litigation.

Criminal Defense Litigation

Jonathan has successfully defended hundreds of misdemeanor and felony matters, both in State and Federal court, involving a broad spectrum of criminal defense matters. With respect to his criminal defense practice, Jonathan has been nationally recognized in 2015 as a Michigan Top 10 under 40 Defense Attorney by the National Academy of Criminal Defense Attorneys.

Before joining the firm, Jonathan graduated cum laude from Wayne State University Law School and was a Dean's Scholar and Lombard Fellow. While in law school, Jonathan earned numerous awards for academic merit, including Best Contract, Wayne State University Law School Legal Writing and Research Department, Best Oral Advocate, Best Written Advocate and Law Day Champion, Wayne State University Law School Moot Court Program, and was elected to the law school's National Moot Court Team. During his second year of law school, Jonathan interned for the Honorable Bernard A. Friedman of the United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan.

As an undergraduate at James Madison College, Michigan State University, Jonathan studied international relations and was awarded Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Iota Rho honors.

Representative Cases

Skillnet Solutions, Inc v Entertainment Publications, LLC, 2012 US Dist. LEXIS 172367 (E.D. Mich.)



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Education

J.D., cum laude, Wayne State
University Law School, Detroit,
Michigan, 2009

B.A., with Honors, James Madison
College, Michigan State University,
2006

State Bar Licenses

Michigan

Court Admissions

U.S. District Ct., E.D. of Michigan
U.S. Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit

Practices, Industries & Services

Litigation
White Collar Criminal Defense

Areas of Emphasis

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Business Litigation
Closely Held Business Entities
Commercial Litigation
Employment at Will/Contracts
Land Use & Zoning
Leasing
Trust and Estate Controversy

Memberships

- Italian American Bar Association of Michigan, President
- New Lawyers Section of Oakland County Bar Association, Past-President
- Oakland County Bar Foundation, Fellow
- State Bar of Michigan, Member
- Detroit Garment Group (a 501(c)(3) nonprofit), Past-Board of Directors and Treasurer

Honors

- Oakland County Bar Association Bonnie Beutler Outstanding New Lawyer Award, 2018