



Jared M. Klaus

partner

Jared focuses on complex commercial litigation. His experience includes business competition disputes involving alleged trade secret theft, non-competes and tortious interference claims, as well as transactional disputes, construction disputes and contested foreclosures. Jared's work covers all facets of litigation – from discovery to motion practice, as well as trial, arbitration and appeal. Most recently, he has advised clients on declarations of force majeure in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jared has extensive experience in the financial services, manufacturing, construction and real estate industries – from defending financial institutions against the alphabet soup of statutory consumer claims, to guiding lenders through contested foreclosures, to defending builders against claims for construction defects. He has also worked with companies in the aerospace, insurance and healthcare sectors to protect their trade secrets and enforce non-compete agreements.

Additionally, Jared serves as an adjunct professor at Capital University Law School, where he coaches the law school's ABA moot court teams. In law school, Jared served on the Moritz College of Law moot court and national trial teams. Jared was a member of the *Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law* and was honored with the Joshua Dressler Award for Excellence in Criminal Law. Jared graduated first in his law school class and holds a master's degree in journalism.

Prior to joining Porter Wright, Jared served as an investigative reporter for *Scene Magazine* in Cleveland. He was named Best Reporter in Ohio by the Ohio Society of Professional Journalists in 2008.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Commercial Litigation

- Defended private equity firm and portfolio company in suit by competitor alleging tortious interference with business deal.
- Defended high-profile corporate executive in claims by former employer for breach of non-compete.
- Successfully obtained preliminary injunction on behalf of aerospace manufacturer to prevent former employee from joining competitor in breach of non-compete.

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

The Ohio State University Michael
E. Moritz College of Law, J.D., 2011

Ohio University, M.S., 2007

Ohio University, B.B.A., *cum laude*,
2003

SERVICES

Litigation

- Commercial litigation
- Appellate and Supreme Court practice
- Non-competition and trade secrets litigation
- Financial services litigation
- Product liability

Wireless & Telecommunications

Bankruptcy, Workout & Creditors' Rights

- Successfully obtained injunction on behalf of insurance agency blocking former sales agent from soliciting customers in breach of restrictive covenants.
- Successfully obtained injunction on behalf of physical therapy provider enforcing non-compete against former employee.
- Successfully represented building products manufacturer in enjoining competition by former employees based on misappropriation of trade secrets.
- Advised publicly traded corporations on non-compete and trade-secret disputes.
- Represented franchisees in unfair competition suit against grocery store chain.
- Represented major egg producer in defending against class action and direct claims of price fixing under the Sherman Act.
- Defended institutional lender against counterclaims for tortious interference and others asserted by mechanics'-lien holders in commercial foreclosure action.
- Successfully represented lenders in prosecuting contested commercial foreclosure actions at the trial court level and on appeal.
- Defended majority shareholders of close corporations in claims by minority shareholders for squeeze-out/oppression.

Product Liability and Environmental

- Represented large manufacturer in implementing voluntary product recalls under supervision of Consumer Product Safety Commission.
- Assisted in representing a leading chain of auto service centers in defending against a wrongful death action stemming from allegedly negligent repair work, which resulted in complete summary judgment for the client as well as an affirmance by the appellate court.
- Defended manufacturers of farm, recreational and emergency vehicles in claims for breach-of-warranty and product-liability.
- Defended kraft paper mill in class action suit alleging nuisance condition.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Ohio

PRESENTATIONS

- "Recent Developments Regarding Business Competition/Non-Compete," Central Ohio Association of Corporate Counsel, 2017, 2023
- "Made in the USA,' A Trap for the Unwary," Porter Wright Retailer Roundtable, Oct. 28, 2015

PUBLICATIONS

- "Sunshine laws no daydream for cannabis companies," *Thomson Reuters Cannabis Law*, April 2, 2020

SERVICES (CONTINUED) Business Competition, Advice & Litigation

- Non-compete, non-solicitation, non-recruitment and non-disclosure agreements
- Antitrust advice and litigation

Financial Institutions

- Financial services litigation

Technology

Cannabis

- “Outsmarted by a smart phone: The Supreme Court of Ohio dials in on the admissibility of cell phone records,” *Ohio Lawyer*, May/June 2013
- “Consumers go up in smoke in *Phillips v. Philip Morris*,” *Law360*, April 15, 2013

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