



Curtis A. Johnson

Member

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Profile

Curt's clients value his experience in large-scale, multi-party litigation as they navigate protracted disputes. The focus of Curt's litigation practice is the representation of publicly traded companies, financial institutions, universities, as well as closely-held business.

His work for these entities includes:

- contract disputes
- corporate ownership and control disputes
- real estate disputes
- construction and lien law disputes
- government investigations

Curtis also has experience litigating the inter-family disputes of high-net worth individuals arising in the context of guardianship proceedings, will and gift contests and estate litigation.

As a practitioner concentrating on complex corporate litigation, two of his notable cases include representation of a large commercial and investment bank in *Adelphia Recovery Trust v. Bank of America, N.A., et al.* and representing one of two ownership groups in *Ferolito v. Vultaggio* in their dispute over control of AriZona Iced Tea. In addition, Curtis has successfully represented parties in disputes arising out of construction work, including general- and sub-contractors in pay disputes, defense of a regional bank against claims of lien law diversion, prosecution of breach of fiduciary duty claims, prosecution and defense of Lanham Act false advertising claims, defense of Fair Debt Collection Practices Act claims, and assistance with regulatory compliance including compliance with data privacy and breach notification statutes.

Honors & Affiliations

- Listed in:
 - *New York Super Lawyers 2019*®, Upstate New York Rising Star, Business Litigation
 - *New York Super Lawyers 2018*®, Upstate New York Rising Star, Business Litigation

Education

- Albany Law School of Union University (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2007)
- University at Albany, State University of New York (B.A. 2004)

Bar/Court Admissions

- New York
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York

Practices

- Litigation
- Cybersecurity and Data Privacy
- Class and Collective Action Litigation

- Forty Under 40, *Rochester Business Journal*, 2018
- New York State Bar Association, Outstanding Young Lawyer Award, 2017
- Monroe County Bar Association, Emerging Bar Leader Award, 2016
- *The Daily Record*, Excellence in Law, Up & Coming Attorneys Award, 2016
- New York State Bar Association, Commercial and Federal Litigation Section
- Monroe County Bar Association, Awards Committee; Former Member of Board of Trustees and Executive Committee; Past Chair, Young Lawyers Section
- Senior Editor, *Albany Law Review*

Representative Publications

- "Understanding the Pitfalls of Shareholders' Agreements," *Rochester Business Journal*, March 6, 2020
- "State's SHIELD Act in Effect to Regulate Cybersecurity Protections," *Rochester Business Journal*, October 25, 2019
- "Strife in Business Partnership Sometime Necessitates a Dissolution," *Rochester Business Journal*, December 5, 2018
- "Telling War Stories: Just Because it's on PACER Doesn't Make it Fair Game," *The Daily Record*, October 2, 2017
- Quoted in "Foundations Face Costs with New N.Y. Rules," *Rochester Business Journal*, February 3, 2017
- Quoted in "New Cybersecurity Regulations Need Clarification," *Rochester Business Journal*, November 11, 2016
- "What the Email Privacy Act Means for Firms," *Rochester Business Journal*, June 3, 2016
- "State, U.S. Courts Aim to Reduce Costs of Litigation," *Rochester Business Journal*, October 16, 2015
- "Litigators Beware: Your Email Might Serve as a Binding Settlement Stipulation," *NY Daily Record*, August 11, 2013

Representative Presentations

- 2017 – My Firm Got Hacked and Taken Hostage: The Anatomy Cyberhacking, Rochester, New York
- 2017 – Basic Lessons on Ethics and Civility, Rochester, New York
- 2017 – Risk Management, Buffalo, New York and Rochester, New York
- 2016 – Ethics: The Supervisory Responsibilities of Associates and Partners, Rochester, New York
- 2016 – Conflicts of Interest – Frequent Issues Faced by the Defense, New York, New York
- 2016 – The Dos and Don'ts of Debt Collection – FDCPA, TCPA and NY DFS, Rochester, New York
- 2015 – Program Chair and Speaker, Bridging the Gap from Law School to Practicing Law, Rochester, New York
- 2015 – Risk Management, Buffalo, New York
- 2014 – Program Chair and Speaker, Ethics: The Supervisory Responsibilities of

Associates and Partners, Rochester, New York

Other Activities

- Causewave Community Partners, Board Member
- Villa of Hope, Board Member