



## Brian J. Renaud

Shareholder

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Brian Renaud provides general counsel services to mature and second stage companies and to governmental entities. His role as general counsel encompasses day-to-day advising on corporate finance, real estate, contracts, insurance, licensing, regulatory, municipal and litigation matters.

Brian's work for corporate, institutional and government clients includes:

- **Business:** Contract negotiation and drafting, including finance and non-competition agreements, real estate transactions and insurance coverage matters
- **Municipal:** Municipal contracting, ordinance drafting and implementation, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Open Meetings Act compliance, zoning and planning, eminent domain proceedings
- **Regulatory:** Transactional due diligence, environmental permitting and regulatory compliance, and regulation negotiations
- **Litigation:** Complex cases and appeals at all levels of the state and federal court systems, including administrative litigation before various state and federal agencies and tribunals

Companies and governmental entities represented in Brian's role as general counsel include an international manufacturer of professional sports equipment, a health care services provider with facilities in ten states, an international trucking and logistics company, and several Michigan municipalities, intergovernmental authorities and road commissions.

In addition to his legal practice, Brian has served as Chairman and is a Board Member on the Governing Board of Lexwork International, a network of independent law firms in North America, South America,

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### PRACTICE AREAS

Commercial Litigation  
Municipal & Public Entity Law  
Business Law  
Condemnation & Eminent Domain  
Environmental Law  
Labor Relations  
Licensing - Professional - Business - Government

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### EDUCATION

University of Detroit School of Law,  
J.D., 1982  
Western Michigan University, B.S.

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### BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Michigan  
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan  
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan  
U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana  
U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals  
U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

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### HONORS & RECOGNITIONS

AV® Preeminent™  
Martindale-Hubbell



Europe and Asia, offering business and regulatory law services to clients worldwide. He has also served on Foster Swift's Executive Committee and as Vice President of the firm.

*Best Lawyers® in America -  
Administrative / Regulatory Law,  
2013-2025*

## **REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS**

### Business, Real Estate & Finance:

- Represented health care services provider in multi-state acquisition, financing and construction of acute care hospital facilities and development properties.
- Negotiated multi-million dollar casualty insurance settlement for structural steel contractor engaged on university sports arena construction project.
- Obtained dismissal of a \$700,000 federal withholding tax claim against a national business services owner.
- Developed regulatory policy and procedure manuals for major Midwest financial institution. Conducted policy implementation training sessions in several states.

### Regulatory and Municipal:

- Negotiated air emission regulation package with state environmental agency that eliminated in excess of \$100 million in client capital expenditure requirements for utility, cement and paper products client group.
- Managed regulatory and media response of Tier 1 automotive parts manufacturer to hazardous substance release, avoiding adverse publicity and significantly reducing remediation costs.
- Negotiated state and federal operating permits for contested Great Lakes marina development. Managed media coverage issues and negotiated conservation easement with state permitting authority.
- Negotiated seven figure, no-cost municipal marina reconstruction claim in favor of major Michigan municipality.

### Litigation:

- Successfully litigated exemption of a \$45 million waste conversion facility from state personal property taxes, reducing the client's annual tax liability by \$2.5 million.
- Obtained dismissal of an eminent domain challenge to a major pipeline construction project.



- Obtained \$1.8-million-dollar summary disposition judgment in an environmental fraud and cost recovery case of first impression in Michigan.
- Obtained summary judgment in a high-profile federal whistleblower case of first impression for a national paper products client.
- Obtained unanimous Federal Court jury verdict against former employee and agent of international sports equipment manufacturer in federal trademark law and unfair competition litigation.

### **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

**A Michigan Condemnation Law Primer for Commercial Property Owners**, *International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC)*, February 13, 2020

**State Bar of Michigan- Professionalism in Action Program**, *State Bar of Michigan*, August 13, 2012

**Ask a Lawyer - Municipal Litigation and Appeals**, *Michigan Townships Association*, January 25, 2012

**Recent Developments in Michigan Environmental Law**, *Lorman Education Services*, March 2005

**Law for the Real Estate Professional**, October 2002

**Try to See it My Way: Dealing with the Regulatory Process**, *Illinois State Bar Association*, September 2001

### **MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS**

#### **Legal Affiliations:**

- American Bar Association
- State Bar of Michigan

#### **Industry & Professional Associations:**

- Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys
- International Right of Way Association
- Community Leadership Development Academy, Graduate
- Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce, PAC Board Member
- Licensed Michigan Real Estate Broker
- Detroit Athletic Club, Resident Member