

## GRAND RAPIDS

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## Services

Litigation and Dispute Resolution  
Appeals  
Criminal Defense Litigation

## Industries

Higher Education

## Education

Georgetown University Law  
Center, J.D., 2006  
Cornell University, B.A. 2003

## Bar Admissions

Michigan

## Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court  
U.S. Court of Appeals

- Sixth Circuit
- Third Circuit

U.S. District Courts

- Eastern District of Michigan
- Western District of Michigan
- Northern District of Indiana



**Paul D. Hudson**

Principal  
Appeals Section Chair

Paul chairs the firm's Appeals group and focuses his practice on appellate matters in the state and federal appeals courts.

He has argued more than 50 appeals in appellate courts across the country, including the Michigan Supreme Court, the Michigan Court of Appeals, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. He serves as a lead appellate counsel for a large automotive OEM in appeals throughout the Midwest, and lead appellate counsel for a large insurer in the Michigan appeals courts. He also represents individual clients in cases ranging from property and contract disputes to federal criminal and habeas appeals. He is admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court and has represented clients at the writ of certiorari stage. Paul also maintains an active amicus curiae practice and serves as amicus counsel for the Michigan Manufacturers Association, a leading trade organization and a prominent voice in the Michigan appellate courts.

Paul uses this deep and varied appellate experience to defend our clients' hard-fought victories on appeal and to overturn unfavorable decisions from the lower courts.

Paul is known for his clear, concise, and persuasive writing style. A national legal writing expert recently conducted a blind study of merits briefs filed in the Michigan Supreme Court and concluded that "one name is coming out on top: Paul Hudson."

In 2016, Paul won the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel's Golden Gavel Award, which is given annually to a lawyer who "exemplifies significant contribution to professionalism and courtesy in the practice of law and [promotes] the image and honorable reputation of the profession."

## Paul D. Hudson

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Paul is active in state and federal bar associations and was appointed by the Chief Judge of the Sixth Circuit to serve as the chair of the Advisory Committee on Rules, one of just three Michigan lawyers on the Committee. He has also served on the State Bar of Michigan's Appellate Practice Council and the American Bar Association's Appellate Practice Committee. Paul was the Editor-in-Chief and Publications Chair of the State Bar of Michigan Litigation Journal, and co-authored the Michigan chapter of a leading treatise on commercial disputes, "Business Torts: A Fifty State Guide."

In addition to his busy practice, Paul serves the community as a member of the Board of Directors for Goodwill Industries of Southwest Michigan and as a member of Miller Canfield's Pro Bono Committee.

Paul graduated *cum laude* from Georgetown University Law Center, where he was a member of the law review. He received a B.A. in Government and Philosophy from Cornell University, where he played as a catcher on the baseball team.

Before joining Miller Canfield, Paul served as a law clerk for the Honorable Raymond M. Kethledge on the Sixth Circuit.

## Representative Matters

### **Automotive Manufacturer Tax Dispute**

Successfully argued an appeal on behalf of an automotive manufacturer seeking a tax refund from the Department of Treasury.

### **Automotive Supplier Warranty Dispute**

Successfully represented a large automotive supplier in a \$50 million warranty dispute.

### **Individual Criminal Defense Appeal**

Briefed and argued a criminal-procedure issue of first impression in the Michigan Court of Appeals.

### **Defense Contractor Whistleblower Case**

Conducted internal investigation of a defense contractor relating to allegations of fraud by a whistleblower.

### **Agricultural Supplier Whistleblower Case**

Conducted internal investigation of a large agricultural supplier relating to allegations of fraud by a whistleblower.

### **Federal Habeas Corpus Petitioner Appeal**

Briefed and argued complex habeas corpus appeal in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

### **Individual Federal Criminal Trial**

Obtained a not-guilty verdict on the sole contested charge as co-counsel in a federal drug-distribution and firearms jury trial.

### **Law Firm Fraud and Malpractice Dispute**

Won dismissal of multi-million-dollar fraud and malpractice claims against a foreign law firm.

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## Reported and Published Decisions

**Ford Motor Co. v. Department of Treasury, \_\_ NW.2d \_\_, 2014 WL 2894925 (Mich 2014)**

Successfully argued an appeal on behalf of an automotive manufacturer seeking a tax refund from the Department of Treasury.

**Jackson v. Sedgwick Claims Management, \_\_ F.3d \_\_ (2013)** Successfully defended a worker's compensation claims administrator against allegations of civil RICO violations. Case was decided by Sixth Circuit en banc.

**MacDonald v. Thomas M. Cooley Law School, \_F.3d\_ (2013)** Successfully represented a law school in a purported \$300 million class action brought by graduates alleging fraud and violations of the Michigan Consumer Protection Act.

**Rudisill v. Ford Motor Co., 709 F.3d 595 (6th Cir. 2013)** Successfully argued an appeal involving a claim brought under the Ohio intentional-tort statute arising out of a factory accident.

**Mack Trucks Inc. v. BorgWarner Turbo Systems, Inc., 508 F. App'x 180 (3d Cir. 2012)** Successfully represented a turbocharger supplier against a \$50 million warranty claim brought by a large truck manufacturer.

**Estate of David Geller v. Ellis Seddon Trust** Successfully argued an appeal dismissing an action under Michigan's corporate-dissolution statute.

**Thomas M. Cooley Law School v. John Doe 1, 833 N.W.2d 331 (Mich. App. 2013)** Represented law school in an appeal setting the standard in Michigan for discovery of the identity of an anonymous internet defamation defendant.

**Michigan One Funding, LLC v. MacLean, 2012 WL 4210424 (Mich. App. 2012)** Argued appeal involving retention of confidential documents by a company executive after termination.

**Kennedy v. Warren, 428 F. App'x 517 (6th Cir. 2011)** Briefed and argued a complex habeas corpus appeal involving changes to Confrontation Clause law.

**People v. Klees, 2011 WL 2342707 (Mich. App. 2011)** Briefed and argued a criminal-procedure issue of first impression in the Michigan Court of Appeals.

**United States v. Wallace, No. 10-cr-20664 (E.D. Mich. 2012)** Obtained a non-guilty verdict on the sole contested charge as co-counsel in a federal drug distribution and firearms jury trial.

**Urban Global v. DibbsBarker, 2011 WL 2802904 (E.D. Mich. 2011)** Won dismissal of multi-million-dollar fraud and malpractice claims against an Australian law firm.

## Honors

Grand Rapids Magazine, Top Lawyers, Appellate Law, 2024-present

The Fellows of the Michigan State Bar Foundation

**Paul D. Hudson**

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Best Lawyers in America, Appellate Law and Commercial Litigation, 2016-present

State Bar of Michigan Pro Bono Honor Roll, 2021

*D*Business Magazine, Top Lawyers, Appellate Law, 2020-2023

Michigan Super Lawyers, Appellate, 2023-2025; Rising Star, 2011-2022

Michigan Lawyers Weekly, Up and Coming Lawyers, 2013

Leading Lawyers, Civil Appellate Law, Commercial Litigation, Criminal Appellate Law, Criminal Defense Law: White Collar, 2014–present

**Professional Activities**

Sixth Circuit Advisory Committee on Rules, Chair

American Bar Association, Appellate Practice Committee, Former Membership and Diversity Chair

State Bar of Michigan, Appellate Practice Council

State Bar of Michigan, Former Litigation Section Council

State Bar of Michigan, Litigation Newsletter, Former Editor-in-Chief

**Civic, Cultural & Social Activities**

Duffy Daugherty Memorial Award, Board of Directors

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Michigan, Board of Directors

**Speeches**

"Using Friend of the Court Briefs to Protect Your Organization," Miller Canfield, May 9, 2013

"Winning Your Appeal," Miller Canfield Cappuccino with Counsel Series, May 9, 2012

**Publications**

"Business Torts: A Fifty State Guide" (Co-author of Michigan chapter), Aspen Publishers, 2014

"Understanding the Changes to the Rules of Civil Procedure: Amendments Move E-Discovery to the Forefront of Civil Litigation," (Co-author), 2 CONSUMER FIN. L. Q. REP. 229 (2007)

Paul D. Hudson

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**Articles**

Thinking Ahead: Why You Should Consider Including an Appellate Lawyer on Your Trial Team

U.S. Supreme Court Rundown