

Miller Canfield's Stephen Ragatzki Named to Michigan Lawyers Weekly's Up & Coming Lawyers Class of 2025

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Miller Canfield is proud to announce that *Michigan Lawyers Weekly* has named Stephen Ragatzki to its prestigious Up & Coming Lawyers Class of 2025. This annual recognition honors attorneys who have excelled in their profession and displayed ambition, drive, and accomplishments that set them apart in their first decade of practice.

Ragatzki, a principal attorney and commercial litigator based in Miller Canfield's Grand Rapids office, is known for his ability to distill complex legal and technical concepts into clear, compelling arguments. He represents clients in highly regulated industries, including those governed by the FDA, SEC, Michigan Liquor Control Commission, and Michigan Public Service Commission. His practice spans commercial disputes, non-compete enforcement, construction litigation, and high-profile tort defense.

One of Ragatzki's most notable achievements includes playing a key role in a landmark trial representing the Wineries of the Old Mission Peninsula Association, where he successfully challenged unconstitutional zoning ordinances. His work in this case safeguarded the interests of 11 wineries and set legal precedent in federal litigation.

With a background in biochemistry and molecular biology, Ragatzki brings scientific expertise to legal matters requiring technical acumen. He is currently representing a pharmaceutical contract manufacturing organization in a complex breach of contract dispute involving FDA compliance, leveraging his knowledge to navigate intricate discovery and expert witness testimony.

Beyond his litigation practice, Ragatzki is committed to mentorship and professional development. As a member of Miller Canfield's summer associate hiring committee, he actively recruits and mentors future legal talent. His experience as a Teach for America corps member, where he taught Algebra II and chemistry in Chicago schools, has shaped his approach to litigation—translating complex legal issues into understandable narratives for judges and juries.

A former federal law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Ragatzki is recognized for his strategic legal writing and persuasive advocacy. His contributions to the profession have earned him recognition in Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch and a place on the State Bar of Michigan's Pro Bono Honor Roll.

"Steve is an exceptional attorney whose sharp legal mind, technical expertise, and commitment to mentorship make him a rising star in the legal field," said Miller Canfield CEO Mike Palizzi. "His ability to advocate effectively for clients and simplify complex legal matters sets him apart, and we are thrilled to see him recognized as an Up & Coming Lawyer."