

Christopher Gartman Named in Crain's Newsmakers of 2024

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Miller Canfield is proud to announce that Christopher Gartman has been named among *Crain's Grand Rapids Business Newsmakers of the Year* for 2024. This prestigious recognition highlights individuals whose impact and leadership have shaped business and industry in West Michigan.

Gartman, a principal at Miller Canfield and resident director of the firm's Grand Rapids office, is widely recognized for his work in the craft beverage industry. As a trusted legal advisor, he represents breweries, wineries, and distilleries—ranging from startups to multinational brands—guiding them through licensing, regulatory compliance, distribution agreements, mergers and acquisitions, and intellectual property protection.

"Chris' deep knowledge of the craft beverage industry, paired with his legal expertise and hands-on experience as a former brewer, has made him an indispensable resource for our clients," said Miller Canfield CEO Michael Palizzi. "His leadership and impact on the industry and the Grand Rapids business community make him a deserving recipient of this recognition."

Beyond his work with craft beverage clients, Gartman handles a broad range of commercial disputes, advising clients in construction, motorsports, entertainment, and retail. His commitment to community engagement is evident through his involvement with organizations such as the Michigan Brewers Guild, Illinois Craft Brewers Guild, Wisconsin Brewers Guild, the Grand Rapids Student Advancement Foundation, and Grand Valley State University's World Trade Week Conference Planning Committee.

Gartman joined Miller Canfield in 2018 and was named resident director of the firm's Grand Rapids office in 2024, where he continues to drive strategic growth and community engagement.