

Christopher J. Letkewicz

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Overview

Chris is a pragmatic and aggressive problem solver in high stakes complex commercial litigation. For over 15 years, Chris has helped clients across a wide variety of industries achieve their business objectives by obtaining dismissals, summary judgments, appellate court affirmances of favorable trial court judgments and favorable settlements.

Chris tailors his representation to the client's business goals whether it be an aggressive defense or prosecution to a decision on the merits in its favor, a quick, favorable settlement, or something in between.

Chris is the ultimate generalist with extensive experience, including first chair trial experience, in a wide variety of matters such as breach of contract, tortious interference, piercing the corporate veil, fraud, unjust enrichment, trade secret misappropriation, and defamation matters in state and federal courts across the country.

Chris is also passionate about giving back and helping those in need. Chris maintains a highly active pro bono practice and is a member of the Firm's Pro Bono Committee.

*Matter completed prior to joining Benesch.

Representative Matters

- Helped obtain favorable settlement on the eve of trial for Fortune 100 technology company in trade secrets lawsuit involving enterprise collaboration software brought by former potential vendor.

- Represented Fortune 100 technology company in breach of contract matter in the Southern District of New York stemming from an over half-billion dollar divestiture. Obtained favorable settlement after minimal discovery.
- Representing cannabis dispensary in Illinois circuit court that challenges the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation's decision to award an Adult Use Dispensing Organization License to a competing dispensary.
- Represented craft grower cannabis applicant in administrative review complaint against the Illinois Department of Agriculture (the "Department"). Convinced Illinois circuit court to reverse the Department's disqualification of applicant leading to applicant obtaining craft grower license.
- Represented concessionaire in constitutional challenge to 75-year, billon-dollar public-private partnership contract related to a major city's parking meter system. Secured summary judgment that was unanimously affirmed by the Illinois appellate court.*
- Secured decisive victory for a specialty packaging and point-of-purchase display company against disgruntled former counsel trying to recover purportedly owed attorney's fees by convincing first an Illinois circuit court to dismiss the suit and later an Illinois appellate court to affirm and award the company attorney fees in a scathing opinion in which the appellate court stated that the appeal was "contrary to reason or common sense" and "asks us to find that two plus two equals five."
- Represented Fortune 500 consumer products company and served as second-chair counsel in an eight-figure breach of contract arbitration matter. Helped obtain favorable settlement after the completion of a week-long arbitration hearing.
- Represented major healthcare system in seeking to recover millions of dollars in errant payments made to a former and now defunct vendor. Successfully brought unjust enrichment, fraudulent transfer, and piercing the corporate veil claims resulting in a favorable settlement with one party and a multi-million dollar judgment against the remaining parties.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- DePaul University College of Law, 2009, J.D., *summa cum laude*
  - Order of the Coif
  - Articles, Notes and Comments Editor, DePaul Law Review
- University of Notre Dame, 2004, B.A., *summa cum laude*, Psychology and Political Science

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

Memberships

- Member, Chicago Bar Association
- Co-Vice Chair, Well-Being and Mindfulness Committee, Chicago Bar Association
- Investigator, Judicial Evaluation Committee, Chicago Bar Association

Beyond the office

Hobbies and Outside Interests

When Chris is not busy wrangling his two small children, you can find him on a running path or cheering for his beloved Notre Dame Fighting Irish, Chicago Bears and Chicago White Sox.

News & Insights

- Course of Performance as Contract Amendment or Waiver: When Business Practices Overrides Paper Terms
  July 17, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- Grand Theft Cargo: Practical Ways Freight Brokers Can Avoid Cyber-Enabled Cargo Theft
  April 9, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- Early Evidence? Not in This Court!: Supreme Court Clarifies Federal Rules Govern Over State Law
  January 22, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- Kathryn Clausing and Christopher Letkewicz mentioned in Crain's Chicago People on the Move
  October 30, 2023 | Media Mentions
- Benesch Continues Expansion of Chicago Office with Three New Attorneys
  October 30, 2023 | Press Releases
- J. Erik Connolly quoted in Variety | "'RHOBH' Star Diana Jenkins Sues 'Crazy Days & Nights' Blogger Over Sex Trafficking Claim"
  November 3, 2022 | Media Mentions
- Krista M. Enns, J. Erik Connolly, Lily North, Christopher Letkewicz mentioned in FlickPrime | "RHOBH Star Diana Jenkins Makes New Move in 'Bots' Lawsuit"
  September 20, 2022 | Media Mentions

- Krista M. Enns, J. Erik Connolly, Lily North, Christopher Letkewicz mentioned in Heavy | "RHOBH Star Diana Jenkins Asks Judge to Help Find 'Crucial' Info for Lawsuit"
  September 20, 2022 | Media Mentions
- My Benesch My Team - Vertiv
  March 16, 2022 | My Benesch My Team: Client Feature Ads
- J. Erik Connolly, Nicole E. Wrigley and Christopher J. Letkewicz mentioned in Law360 | "Lack Of Evidence Lets Vertiv Escape $100M TradeSecrets Suit"
  October 28, 2021 | Media Mentions