

David A. Rammelt

Chicago
T 312.212.4958
drammelt@beneschlaw.com

Overview

For over two decades, David has represented more than 100 public and private companies and has served as lead trial counsel in more than two dozen jury trials, class action lawsuits, TRO and injunction hearings, and arbitrations. His trial practice is focused primarily on high-stakes, complex business litigation, class actions, intellectual property and sports litigation.

David has tried or successfully resolved cases for clients in a variety of matters involving banking and finance, toxic tort, securities fraud, breach of fiduciary duty and shareholder disputes, antitrust violations, unfair competition claims, patent and trademark disputes, distributor disputes, real estate disputes, consumer class actions, product and warranty litigation, and contract disputes. David has appeared in hundreds of lawsuits filed in state and federal courts throughout the United States, including numerous jury trials in Chicago, Illinois, as well as trials in California, Kentucky, Missouri, and Texas.

In 2020, David and his team of more than 40 Benesch partners and associates were selected to serve as National Trial Counsel for a publicly traded technology company to handle all of the company's commercial litigation, class actions and consumer litigation. In 2016, David led a team selected by a major oil and energy company to serve Panel Litigation Counsel, and in 2008, he and his team were selected as National Counsel for a global manufacturer of recreational products. Many of these engagements are innovative alternative fee arrangements, and one fixed-fee model that David and his client developed for handling national litigation was featured in an in-depth article in the Business Section of the Chicago Tribune.

David has handled high-profile cases that have drawn considerable media attention. Cases in which he has appeared as lead trial counsel have been covered by the Chicago Tribune, the Chicago Sun-Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the New York Times, among others. He has appeared on CNBC and has been quoted in dozens of newspapers and magazines, including USA Today and Crain's Chicago Business.

Representative Matters

- Defeated class certification and prevailed on Daubert arguments dismissing the opinions of class plaintiffs' damages and consumer survey experts, successfully arguing on behalf of telehealth company that plaintiffs' claims involved too many individualized questions regarding injury and damages, rendering class treatment inappropriate.
- Successfully barred opposing counsel's two expert witnesses (including another expert economist) at trial, resulting in an immediate settlement at favorable terms for the client the evening before picking a jury in a case pending in federal court. (2010)
- Obtained a defense verdict in a case tried to a jury in Chicago, Illinois, in a case involving a single-vehicle rollover accident in California, in which it was alleged that plaintiff's spastic quadriplegia resulted from defective roof design.
- Part of the trial team that successfully defeated a $171 million patent infringement case tried to a federal jury in San Diego, California (2012).
- Obtained a defense verdict in a case tried to a jury in St. Louis, Missouri, in which it was alleged that plaintiff suffered permanent injuries as a result of a defective seat belt design.
- Lead trial counsel for a global investment bank in a breach of fiduciary duty and conspiracy case tried over seven weeks to a successful conclusion before a jury in federal court in Chicago. Successfully barred opposing counsel's expert economist from testifying under Daubert principles (2010).
- Co-counsel in a case involving a treadmill tried to a favorable verdict in Cook County, Illinois (2011).
- Handled more than a dozen lawsuits involving real estate disputes, including a 2007 dispute over a commercial lease; a multi-million dollar dispute over a Bahamian real estate development; and a 2003 dispute over a $50 million Caribbean resort that involved simultaneous proceedings in New York, Las Vegas, Florida and Nassau.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- Indiana University Maurer School of Law, 1990, J.D., *cum laude*
  - Sherman Minton Moot Court Champion
  - Editor, *Indiana Law Journal*
- Hamilton College, 1986, B.A.

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- Wisconsin
- Tennessee
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
- U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee

Memberships

- Distinguished Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America (2019-2025)

Awards & Recognition

- Listed, *The Best Lawyers in America*, Commercial Litigation, 2027
- Listed, Legal 500 Chicago Elite: Commercial Disputes, 2025-2026
- Listed, Benchmark Litigation, Litigation Star, 2024-2027
- Listed, Illinois Super Lawyers, 2018-2019
- AV®Rated, Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review

News & Insights

- Benesch Named 2027 Highly Recommended Firm by Benchmark Litigation; 14 Attorneys Recognized, Including 4 First-Time Honorees
  October 30, 2026 | Press Releases
- 126 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2027 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 20, 2026 | Press Releases
- 16 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2026 Legal 500 City Elite Rankings
  July 28, 2026 | Press Releases
- Benesch Named 2026 Highly Recommended Firm by Benchmark Litigation; 10 Attorneys Recognized, Including Three First-Time Honorees
  October 29, 2025 | Press Releases
- Legal 500 Chicago Elite Nominates Benesch Partners J. Erik Connolly, Nicole Wrigley and David Rammelt for Commercial Disputes Excellence
  February 28, 2025 | Press Releases
- Benesch Named Recommended Firm by Benchmark Litigation for 10th Time, Six Benesch Partners Recognized as 2025 “Litigation Stars”
  October 8, 2024 | Press Releases
- David A. Rammelt, Nicholas J. Secco, Michael D. Meuti, James R. Bedell and Michael B. Silverstein mentioned in Law360 | "Dentists Can't Get Class Certification In SmileDirectClub Suit"
  February 15, 2024 | Media Mentions
- Benesch Named Recommended Firm by Benchmark Litigation for 2024
  November 9, 2023 | Press Releases
- Benesch Welcomes New Partners in Chicago
  October 30, 2023 | Announcements
- 4 Benesch Attorneys Named 2019 Illinois Super Lawyers; 8 Named Illinois Rising Stars
  October 30, 2023 | Press Releases