

# Joseph A. Castrodale

Vice Chairman of the Firm

Cleveland
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## Overview

**Joseph represents large corporate clients in complex business and commercial disputes in federal and state courts throughout the country. These cases encompass securities law claims, shareholder derivative suits, business torts, contract disputes, class actions, product liability, defense of consumer claims, UCC matters, trade secrets, sports law and non-compete disputes. Additionally, Joe's expertise includes all types of ADR proceedings.**

Joe has repeatedly received recognition from the leading client and peer review services. In Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business, he has been recommended as one of Chambers USA "Leaders in their Field" among general commercial litigation lawyers. According to client feedback obtained during the Chambers USA selection process, Joe is described as a "brilliant guy who knows how to manage relationships and as such is a first port of call for a stable of large corporate clients." Other clients commented that "he is creative and passionate" on behalf of their causes, and possesses the "ability to come up with flexible solutions" to their problems. One client says, "He makes me feel as if I were his only client. He is responsive and constantly thinking about my case."

**Client Testimonials**

"He is a very experienced, go-to trial lawyer… a really creative, outside-the-box thinker." - Chambers USA

## Representative Matters

- Won dismissals of three significant class actions on behalf of large national insurance company.

- Successfully defended trade secret and breach of contract case seeking in excess of $30 million against a large multinational corporation.
- Settled for a nominal amount a putative multi-state class action seeking in excess of $100 million in damages for a large international financial institution.
- Defeated class certification attempt in putative nationwide class action brought by prominent class action plaintiffs' firm against a large publicly traded company.
- Successfully represented Eaton in breach of contract litigation against a Canadian licensee over approximately $4 million in overdue royalties. The case settled on highly favorable terms, with a $3.2 million payment to Eaton.
- Represented Cooper Lighting LLC, a subsidiary of Eaton Corporation, in an action for replevin and emergency injunctive relief after the supplier of a critical subcomponent abruptly shuttered its factory's doors, jeopardizing a suite of products produced by Cooper. After obtaining the emergency injunctive relief, the case settled on confidential terms.
- Successfully enforced three non-competes, including one against the former head of a U.S. division, on behalf of a major international sports agency.
- Successfully arbitrated real estate contract case in which the opposing party sought millions.

## Credentials

### EDUCATION

- Harvard University Law School, 1983, J.D., *magna cum laude*
- Youngstown State University, 1980, B.A., *summa cum laude*

### BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

## Memberships

- Past Member, Rules Advisory Committee, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
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Past Member, Magistrate Selection Committee, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio

- Past Member, Judge Anthony J. Celebrezze Inn of Court
- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Ohio State Bar Association
- Member, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
- Member, Northern Ohio Chapter of the Federal Bar Association (Founder Trustee)

## Awards & Recognition

- Listed, Legal 500 Elite City Focus – Ohio Commercial Disputes
- Named, Thomson Reuters Stand-Out Lawyer, 2024-2025
- Listed, Chambers USA Leading Lawyers, General Commercial Litigation, 2008-2026
- USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business, 2015
- Named, BTI Client Service All-Star, 2011, 2015
- Listed, Benchmark Litigation, Litigation Star, 2014-2027
- Listed, Ohio Super Lawyers, General Litigation, 2006-2026
- Listed, *The Best Lawyers in America®,* Commercial Litigation; Litigation – Banking and Finance; Litigation – Mergers and Acquisitions; Litigation – Securities, 2007-2023, 2025-2027
  - 2022 "Lawyer of the Year"
- Listed, "Leading Lawyer" in Northeast Ohio in a survey of lawyers by Inside Business Magazine, 2009-2011 (2011 final year of survey)
- AV® Rated, Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review
- Acritas Star - independently rated lawyer

## 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 Recognized as Leading Law Firm by Chambers USA 2026 with Record Growth in National and Regional Rankings
  June 4, 2026 | Press Releases
- 48 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2026 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
  January 27, 2026 | Press Releases
- 129 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2026 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 21, 2025 | Press Releases
- Benesch Recognized in Chambers USA 2025 with Record Growth in National and Regional Rankings
  June 4, 2025 | Press Releases
- Thomson Reuters Honors 13 Benesch Attorneys as 2025 “Stand-Out Lawyers”
  March 4, 2025 | Press Releases
- Law360 Mentions Partner Joseph Castrodale and Of Counsel Meggan Louden
  February 25, 2025 | Media Mentions
- 49 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2025 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
  December 17, 2024 | Press Releases