



Marc S. Blubaugh

Co-Lead, Transportation & Logistics
Practice

Columbus

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Overview

“Marc is probably the pre-eminent transportation lawyer in North America at this time. He has tremendous depth of knowledge across the sector.” - Benesch client, Chambers USA

“Marc is extremely well informed, is able to quickly get to the crux of the issues and can seamlessly merge practical with legal knowledge.” - Benesch client, Chambers USA

“Marc has a very strong reputation and is a fabulous attorney. He is highly responsive, extremely knowledgeable and gives great guidance.” - Benesch client, Chambers USA

“Marc is very experienced, great at what he does and very focused on these issues.” - Benesch client, Chambers USA

“Marc has fantastic legal skills and responsiveness as well as a fundamental understanding of our business.” - Benesch client, Chambers USA

“Marc brings an excellent balance of business experience and legal expertise to every issue.” - Benesch client, Chambers USA

“Marc is an industry thought-leader.” - Benesch client, Chambers USA

Marc is a trusted advisor to providers and commercial users of transportation, logistics, warehousing and other supply chain services across North America and beyond. A litigator by trade, he regularly consults with clients regarding contracting practices and operating procedures, helps them navigate the changing regulatory landscape, manages internal investigations and advises on best supply-chain practices. Marc also provides strategic and business counsel to help clients minimize liability and just as importantly, position their businesses for growth. A consummate connector and problem solver with deep industry knowledge, Marc routinely finds creative solutions to his clients' most vexing challenges and their most ambitious objectives.

Over the course of nearly 30 years, Marc has also litigated a wide variety of transportation and logistics-related disputes in state and federal courts nationwide, as well as before regulatory bodies. He represents international and domestic carriers of all modes, freight forwarders, transportation brokers, warehousemen, third-party logistics providers and commercial shippers in a diverse array of surface, air and ocean disputes. These include high-dollar cargo claims, freight charge and pricing controversies, breaches of transportation, logistics and warehousing agreements, prosecution of subrogation claims, insurance coverage disputes, trade-secrets and unfair competition litigation, class action defense and other complex business disputes. He also defends carriers, third-party logistics providers and shippers in catastrophic injury actions arising from the transportation of goods.

Representative Matters

- Defended a warehouse operator in a nearly \$10 million dollar dispute in federal court proceedings.
- Defended and prosecuted well over 100 cases involving claims for freight loss, damage, or delay in various stages of litigation and pre-litigation in state and federal courts throughout the entire United States.
- Advised a commercial shipper regarding potential claims arising out of a \$75 million+ loss of pharmaceuticals in transit.
- Prosecuted a multimillion-dollar claim against affiliates of a bankrupt customer pursuant to a managed transportation agreement.
- Defended an action filed in Georgia by a large food distributor against our clients involving \$1 million+ in accruing demurrage charges connected with dozens of refrigerated containers stuck at a port, ultimately negotiating a multiparty resolution.
- Defended a putative Non-Vessel Operating Common Carrier in an action pending before the Federal Maritime Commission in which a former customer was seeking a variety of remedies.
- Defended and obtained dismissal of various officers, directors, principals, and corporate affiliates of a motor carrier in an action arising out of a fatal highway accident for which the plaintiff was seeking to pierce the corporate veil and impose alter ego liability.
- Defended a distributor in a federal court action arising out of alleged breach of a national distribution agreement with claims involving more than \$30 million.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- Case Western Reserve University, 1994, B.A., *magna cum laude*
 - Phi Beta Kappa
- The Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law, 1997, J.D., *summa cum laude*
 - Associate Editor, The Ohio State University Law Journal
 - Executive Director, The Ohio State University Appellate Advocacy Council
 - Michael F. Colley National Trial Team
 - *Order of the Coif*

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 Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court

Memberships

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Columbus Bar Association
- Member, Ohio State Bar Association
- Past Chair, Benesch Mentoring Program
- General Counsel, Intermodal Association of North America
- General Counsel, Transportation Intermediaries Association
- Past President, Breakthrough T1D
- Member, Board of Directors for the American Logistics Aid Network
- Past President, Columbus Roundtable for the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals
- Past President and Member, Transportation Lawyers Association

- Member, Executive Committee of the Transportation Lawyers Association (Voting 2008-2016/Non-Voting 2016-present)
- Member, Canadian Transportation Lawyers Association
- Member, International Warehouse Logistics Association
- Member, Delta Nu Alpha (Transportation Fraternity)
- Member, Ohio Trucking Association (Membership Committee)
- Member, Columbus Importers and Brokers Association
- Member, Columbus Transportation Club
- Member, Medmarc Medical Device Liability Defense Panel
- Member, American Trucking Associations
- Member, International Association of Defense Counsel
- Member, Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association
- Member/Trustee, Leadership Council, American Diabetes Association (2002-2004)
- Trustee, National Audubon Society, Columbus Chapter (2001-2004)
- Member, Transportation Review Advisory Council Ranking Group Committee (2004)
- Grader, Ohio State Board of Bar Examiners (1998-2006)
- Admissions Representative, Case Western Reserve University Alumni Admissions Program (1997-present)
- Co-Chair, St. Paul Silent Auction (2012-2013)
- Member, National Home Delivery Association

Awards & Recognition

- Ranked Band 1 Nationally for Transportation: Road (Carriage/Logistics), Chambers 2018-2026
- Listed, *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2008-2025: Transportation Law
- Named, Lawyer of the Year in Transportation Law by *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2020 and 2025
- AV[®]Rated, Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review
- Listed, Ohio Super Lawyers, Transportation/Maritime, 2011, 2015-2026
- Listed, Ohio Super Lawyers – Rising Stars, 2005
- Board Member of the Year, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), Central Ohio Chapter, 2019
- Recipient, Transportation Lawyers Association’s Distinguished Service Award
- Listed, Martindale-Hubbell Top Rated Lawyers’ in Health Care 2013
- Listed, Martindale-Hubbell Top Rated Lawyers’ in Transportation 2013

Beyond the office

Favorite Quote

“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.” - Winston Churchill

Favorite Vacation

Trip to Italy (Rome, Florence, and Venice) with my wife and four children.

News & Insights

- [Benesch Recognized as Leading Law Firm by Chambers USA 2026 with Record Growth in National and Regional Rankings](#)
June 4, 2026 | Press Releases
- [SCOTUS Extends FAA Exemption to Last-Mile Drivers: What the Flowers Foods decision means for motor carriers and transportation providers](#)
May 29, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Law360 Highlights Marc Blubaugh’s Analysis of Supreme Court Decision Expanding Freight Broker Liability](#)
May 27, 2026 | Contributed Content & Presentations
- [One Battle After Another: Freight Brokers in a Post-Montgomery World](#)
May 18, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [FMCSA’s New Motus System: What Every USDOT-Registered Entity Needs To Know and Do Before May 14th](#)
May 8, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [FreightWaves Highlights Benesch Partner Marc Blubaugh at TIA Capital Ideas Conference](#)
April 17, 2026 | Media Mentions
- [Increased CARB Enforcement of Diesel Transport Refrigeration Units \(TRUs\) Rocks Transporters and Receivers of Refrigerated Shipments in California](#)
March 25, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [TIA Features Benesch Co-Chair Marc Blubaugh Discussing the SCOTUS Case](#)
March 12, 2026 | Media Mentions
- [The High Court Report Featured Partner Marc Blubaugh Discussing Federal Preemption and the Future of the Freight Brokerage Industry](#)
March 11, 2026 | Media Mentions
- [InterConnect Newsletter - Q1 2026](#)
February 25, 2026 | Newsletters

Speaking & Events

PAST EVENTS

- Legal & Regulatory Implications of Montgomery vs. Caribe Transport II, LLC | Marc S. Blubaugh
June 4, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- Current Trends in Transportation & Logistics | Marc S. Blubaugh
May 18, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- The World is Not Enough: A Conversation with Anne Reinke | Marc S. Blubaugh
April 29, 2026 - May 1, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- Innovative Legal Hacks to Protect and Grow your Business | Marc S. Blubaugh
April 15, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- The High Court Report Featured Partner Marc Blubaugh Discussing Federal Preemption and the Future of the Freight Brokerage Industry
March 12, 2026 | Speaking Engagement