


# Marc S. Blubaugh

Co-Lead, Transportation & Logistics Practice

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## Overview

**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.

**Client Testimonials**

"Marc is an exceptional attorney because he combines deep subject matter expertise with unmatched responsiveness and leadership." - Benesch client, Chambers USA

“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

## Representative Matters

- Provided expedited regulatory due diligence for a private equity firm’s acquisition of a freight brokerage having nearly $2 billion in annual revenue.
- Defended a warehouse operator in a nearly $10 million dollar dispute in federal court proceedings in Ohio and Massachusetts over termination of the operator’s relationship with an e-commerce retailer, successfully obtaining a series of favorable rulings regarding the customer’s claims.
- 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, involving parallel proceedings in bankruptcy court and state court based upon novel, intertwined, sophisticated issues under bankruptcy law, federal transportation law, and state contract law, the fusion of which ultimately assisted our client in reaching a favorable settlement.
- 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, including well over $1 million in detention and demurrage reparations pursuant to the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022, obtaining a highly favorable decision and collection of rulings on a number of legal issues of first impression under the statute.
- 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.

# 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, Chambers, Band 1 Nationally for Transportation: Road (Carriage/Logistics), 2018-2026

- Named, *The Best Lawyers in America®*, Transportation Law, Lawyer of the Year, 2020, 2025, 2027
- Listed, *The Best Lawyers in America®,* Transportation Law, 2008-2027
- AV®Rated, Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review
- Listed, Ohio Super Lawyers, Transportation/Maritime, 2011; 2015-2026
- Board Member of the Year, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), Central Ohio Chapter, 2019
- Listed, Ohio Super Lawyers – Rising Stars, 2005
- 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

- InterConnect Newsletter | Q3 2026
  October 20, 2026 | Newsletters
- Crossing Lanes and Catching Fraud: DOJ, DHS and DOT Launch "Crossroads of America" Task Force to Crack Down on Trucking Fraud
  October 14, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- 126 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2027 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 20, 2026 | Press Releases
- Marc Blubaugh Featured on The Intermodal Logistics Podcast Discussing Supreme Court Freight Broker Liability Decision
  August 14, 2026 | Media Mentions
- Benesch Partner Marc Blubaugh Quoted in FreightWaves on Penske Liability Decision
  August 7, 2026 | Media Mentions
- Law360 Highlights Benesch's Marc Blubaugh on Texas Transportation Litigation Trends
  July 31, 2026 | Media Mentions

- Benesch Partner Marc Blubaugh Quoted in Tenney Group's 2026 Mid-Year M&A Report on the Implications of the Montgomery Case
  July 8, 2026 | Media Mentions
- Marc Blubaugh Quoted in FreightWaves on Montgomery Litigation Following Supreme Court Decision
  July 7, 2026 | Media Mentions
- Transport Topics Quotes Benesch Partner Marc Blubaugh on Evolving Broker Liability Risks
  June 23, 2026 | Media Mentions
- Transport Topics Highlights Benesch Partner Marc Blubaugh in Montgomery Decision Coverage
  June 17, 2026 | Media Mentions

## Speaking & Events

### PAST EVENTS

- Broker’s Last Stand | Marc S. Blubaugh
  October 30, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- Ask the Expert: Transportation Liability, Nuclear Verdicts, and the Risks Shaping 2027 | Marc S. Blubaugh
  October 28, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- CIFFA Legal Panel | Marc S. Blubaugh
  October 20, 2026 - October 21, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- Living in a “Montgomery World”: Broker and Shipper Liability | Marc S. Blubaugh
  October 16, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- Legal & Regulatory Issues: Intermodal Needs to Know | Marc S. Blubaugh
  September 14, 2026 | Speaking Engagement