



## Michael D. Stovsky

Chair, Intellectual Property Practice Group; Team Lead - IP and Technology Transactions

Cleveland

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## Overview

**Mike leads Benesch's Intellectual Property, Technology Deals, Data Security and Privacy, and Blockchain and Smart Contracts practices.**

He has nearly three decades of experience representing technology companies from start-up to growth stage, middle market to Fortune 50, as well as major regional and national venture capital and private equity funds and their portfolio companies, and as lead outside counsel on technology transactions, intellectual property, privacy and data security, CIPP/US, GDPR DPO, and Metaverse law.

Mike provides advice and guidance with respect to the protection of trade secrets and other confidential business information, drafts and reviews confidentiality, non-competition, and non-circumvention agreements, and performs due diligence with respect to trade secret and confidentiality issues in the context of technology deals and M&A transactions.

## Representative Matters

- Served as outside counsel in connection with the completion of an agreement for the sale of Summa Health to HatCo.
- Represented a private equity buyer in its acquisition of a wholesale distributor of pipes, valves, and fittings.
- Served as outside counsel to a developer of surgical instruments and spinal implants in connection with business issues.

- Served as outside counsel to a national real estate investment trust in connection with a major ERP software license and integration transaction with a major international software vendor.
- Served as outside counsel to national condominium and apartment developers and owners in connection with satellite and cable television, broadband Internet access and VoIP services implementation agreements
- Served as lead outside counsel to a major international tire and diversified products manufacturer in connection with a multimillion dollar business process outsourcing transaction with Salesforce.com to provide and implement SaaS.
- Served as outside counsel to a Cleveland-based VoIP service provider in connection with a major ERP software license transaction.
- Served as outside consultant to State Senator Eric Fingerhut with respect to the formulation of the Ohio Digital Signature Act.

## Credentials

### EDUCATION

- University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, 1991, J.D.
- Northwestern University, 1986, B.A.

### BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- Certified Information Privacy Professional/United States (CIPP/US)

## Memberships

- Member, Jewish Federation of Cleveland
  - Committee Member, Technology Committee
  - Committee Member, Security Committee
  - Committee Member, Overseas Connection Committee
    - Chair, OCC STEM Education Subcommittee
  - Co-Chair, Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration Event (2020-2021)
- Member, Board of Trustees, Friendship Circle of Cleveland
- Member, Digital and Technology Advisory Committee, Cleveland Museum of Art

- Member and Co-Chair, Legal Node – Legislation Subcommittee, Blockland Cleveland
- Member, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
- Member, American Bar Association
  - Member, Committee on Law and Commerce in Cyberspace, Business Law Section
  - Member, Science and Technology Law Section
- Member, Licensing Executives Society
- Member, Leadership Cleveland (Class of 2010)
- Former Member, Board of Trustees, Providence House
- Former Member, Board of Trustees, Beachwood Schools Foundation
- Former Member, Host Committee – 2019 Shout Out!, Cleveland Rape Crisis Center
- Former Board Member, IP Advisory Council, University of Akron Law School
- Former Adjunct Professor, Case Western Reserve University Law School
- Former Member, Anti-Defamation League National Commission
  - Former Member, Board of Trustees – Ohio Region

## Awards & recognition

- Listed, Chambers USA Leading Lawyers, Intellectual Property, 2022-2025
- Listed, Crain’s Cleveland Business “Notables in Law” (2022)
- AV Rated, Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review
- Listed, The Best Lawyers in America®: Information Technology (2007-2026), Technology Law (2023-2026), IT Outsourcing Law (2023-2026), Data Security and Privacy Law (2023-2026)
- Listed, Ohio Super Lawyers (2006)
- Listed, CrainTech’s “Who’s Who in Technology” (2002-2006)
- Recipient, Crain’s Cleveland Business “40 Under Forty” Award (1999)

## News & Insights

- [129 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2026 Best Lawyers® Rankings](#)  
August 21, 2025 | Press Releases
- [Businesses Must Be Ready for Additional October Compliance Obligations under the DOJ’s Bulk Data Transfer Rule when Interacting with Countries of Concern and Covered Persons](#)  
August 21, 2025 | Client Alerts & Insights

- [Benesch Recognized in Chambers USA 2025 with Record Growth in National and Regional Rankings](#)  
June 4, 2025 | Press Releases
- [Federal Net Neutrality Reinstatement Denied by Court of Appeals; State-Level Laws Remain in Place](#)  
January 16, 2025 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Benesch Partner Michael Stovsky Quoted in Los Angeles Times Article](#)  
December 20, 2024 | Media Mentions
- [DOJ Proposes Rules Limiting Transfer of Sensitive Data to Countries and Individuals](#)  
December 12, 2024 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Benesch Advises Client Rotunda Capital Partners on Strategic Investment in Lehman Pipe and Supply, Inc.](#)  
September 6, 2024 | Press Releases
- [132 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2025 Best Lawyers® Rankings](#)  
August 14, 2024 | Press Releases
- [40 Benesch Attorneys and 15 Practices Recognized by Chambers USA 2024, One Attorney Ranked Globally](#)  
June 6, 2024 | Press Releases
- [Benesch Partner Michael Stovsky Discusses Impact of Potential U.S. TikTok Ban With NBC Cleveland](#)  
April 29, 2024 | Press Releases

## Speaking & Events

### PAST EVENTS

- [AI Enablement and Risks in the Financial Services Industry | Michael D. Stovsky](#)  
April 21, 2026 - April 23, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- [AI Governance | Michael D. Stovsky](#)  
April 16, 2026 - April 17, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- [Cybersecurity and Privacy Protection Conference | Michael D. Stovsky](#)  
April 11, 2025 | Speaking Engagement
- [Cybersecurity Risk Management | Michael D. Stovsky](#)  
December 3, 2024 | Speaking Engagement
- [Defending Against The Modern Threat Landscape – A Layered Approach for Solving the “Cyber Problem” | Michael D. Stovsky](#)  
November 1, 2023 | Speaking Engagement