IceMiller

# Michael Bennett

Associate

michael.bennett@icemiller.com
614 462 1141

Michael Bennett is an associate in Ice Miller's Business Law Group.

Prior to a career in law, Michael spent five years as a professional football player in the National Football League with the Jacksonville Jaguars and Atlanta Falcons. He was also a member and captain of the 2015 Ohio State Football National Championship team.

After receiving his undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University, where he majored in consumer sciences and family financial services, Michael went on to complete his juris doctor at Howard University School of Law. At Howard, his studies were concentrated in the areas of mergers & acquisitions, private equity, and venture capital. He also served as a legal intern for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, an intern in the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman office of the World Bank Group, and as a summer associate with Ice Miller in 2022 and 2023.

## Education

- The Ohio State University (B.S., 2020)
  - Consumer Sciences & Family Financial Services
- Howard University School of Law (J.D., 2024)

## Admissions

- Ohio

## Certifications

- Certificate of Completion: 40-Hour Basic Mediation Training
- Certificate in Investment Banking

## Services & Industries

- Business
- Mergers & Acquisitions

# Success Stories

**Ice Miller Assists Cellens in Raising $6.5 Million to Advance Physics-Based Test for Bladder Cancer**

Ice Miller represented Cellens—a Boston-based cancer diagnostics company pioneering a new mechanobiology and AI-driven platform, BioFeel™, for non-invasive cancer detection, in raising a $6.5 million Series Seed round.

Cellens' technology is a departure from the norm in cancer diagnostics, in which scientists largely rely on molecular markers inside the cell. The company uses atomic force microscopy, which "feels" the stiffness of cells to identify a cancer's biophysical fingerprint rather than its molecular signature. The technology is combined with machine learning algorithms trained on millions of cell interactions.

The financing follows compelling early clinical data generated with leading urologists at Harvard's Brigham and Women's Hospital, showing that the company's urine-based bladder cancer test detected recurrence with strong diagnostic performance, detecting all recurrence cases and achieving an Area under the Curve (AUC) of 88% in an initial prospective clinical study.

The round was led by SOSV, with participation from the Labcorp Venture Fund, KOLON, Blackwood Healthcare Breakthroughs, Tufts University, American Cancer Society BrightEdge, Cancer Fund, TiE Boston Angels, and other strategic investors.

Bladder cancer is among the most common and most expensive cancers to monitor, with an estimated 83,190 new United States cases in 2024 and 800,000 living with the disease nationwide. Because recurrence is frequent, patients undergo repeated invasive cystoscopies, often several times per year. Yet, the majority of these procedures yield negative results, creating significant patient burden and high health care costs. According to SEER-Medicare projections, bladder cancer is expected to reach $11.6 billion in annual United States costs by 2030.

Ice Miller Business partners Dann Bruno and Mai Zymaris represented Cellens in the financing, with assistance from associates Michael Bennett and Tim Pierret. Our Life Sciences practice group has extensive experience working with start-ups to help them with seed-stage funding, intellectual property procurement and counseling, and licensing and strategic alliances.

Click here to read the article.