



## Robert B. Port

Of Counsel

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Robert Port is a seasoned litigator whose practice focuses on business litigation, construction litigation, complex commercial disputes, and construction law, and has represented clients nationally in class-action lawsuits.

In the construction space, Rob has experience handling claims regarding additional costs and scheduling impacts, pre-litigation claims management to mitigate risk and reserve the client's potential future claims for additional compensation or contract time extensions, assisting clients in obtaining certification under various Ohio and federal programs for minority or disadvantaged business entities, and defending clients against decertification for state and federal programs.

Rob also has experience in business tort litigation, representing both plaintiffs and defendants nationally, including breach of contract, tortious interference with contractual relations, misappropriation of trade secrets, and breach of fiduciary duty, as well as analyzing business financial information and developing damages models based on both lost profits and business valuation.

Before pursuing a career in law, Rob obtained a master's degree in mechanical engineering and worked as a research and design (R&D) engineer for over a decade.

### Education

- Drexel University (B.S., *Dean's List*, 1989)
  - Mechanical Engineering
- Catholic University of America (M.S., 1994)
  - Mechanical Engineering
- Case Western Reserve University School of Law (J.D., *cum laude*, 2004)

### Admissions

- Ohio
- United States District Court - Northern District of Ohio
- United States District Court - Southern District of Ohio

### Services & Industries

- Class Actions
- Commercial Litigation
- Construction
- Data Centers
- Litigation

- United States Court of Appeals - Sixth Circuit

## Professional Affiliations

- Former Member of the Federal Bar Association, Board of Directors, Northern District of Ohio Chapter, 2006–2009

## Awards & Honors

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Commercial Litigation, 2020-2027, Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions – Defendants, 2025-2027, Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions – Plaintiffs, 2025-2027; Real Estate Law, 2027
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® “Lawyer of the Year” for Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions – Defendants in Cleveland, 2026
- Cleveland Bridge Builders, Class of 2018
- Ohio *Super Lawyers*® Rising Star, 2010–2011

## Community Involvement

- Member, Lawrence School Board of Trustees (Treasurer), 2017–present
- Member, Jewish Federation of Cleveland Community Relations Committee, 2012–2018
- Member, Mandel Jewish Community Center Board of Trustees, 2012–2018
- Member, Mandel Jewish Community Center Camp Wise Committee, 2012–present

## Key Matters

- Successfully defended a multimillion-dollar punitive damages claim in a class-action lawsuit in Missouri.
- Successfully obtained a complete defense verdict in defending multiple clients in a California action case seeking a multi-million-dollar recovery based on claims of unfair competition and misappropriation of trade secrets.
- Represented a large insurance company in successfully defending class-action lawsuits in Washington and California regarding claims of breach of contract and failure to adhere to filed insurance rates.
- Successfully obtained multimillion-dollar verdicts in actions seeking damages for unfair competition, misappropriation of trade secrets, and breach of fiduciary duty in Ohio, Arizona, and California.
- Represented a general contractor against claims of defective construction causing flooding.
- Defended a general contractor from subcontractor claims regarding hospital improvement and new build projects in Pennsylvania.

## Speaking Engagements

- Instructor, “Ten Techniques for Creating Winning PowerPoint Presentations,” Ohio State Bar Association Continuing Legal Education, August 2017
- Speaker, “Select Issues on General Contractor Potential Liability,” Owens Corning Contractors Workshop, December 2017
- Speaker, “Joint Venture/Partnerships for Large Construction Projects,” Ohio Department of Transportation Bonding Education Program, February 2022
- Speaker, “Ohio Hot Topics for MBE, WBE, EDGE and Small Business,” Construction Employers Association, October 2022
- Speaker, “Joint Ventures with Disadvantaged Businesses: Balancing Strengths & Weaknesses,” Construction Employers Association, August 2023

