



## Ryan S. Bewersdorf Principal

Ryan Bewersdorf is the firm's founder. Ryan earned his law degree at the University of Michigan Law School. Ryan also has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Master of Business Administration from the University of Michigan.

As a lawyer he has received much public recognition. Ryan has been rated AV Preeminent, the highest performance rating in Martindale-Hubbell's peer review attorney rating system. He was also named to the 2012 and 2013 Michigan Super Lawyers - Rising Stars® lists for his work in business litigation and bankruptcy & creditor/debtor rights. He also received the 2012 Up & Coming Lawyer Award, presented by the Michigan Lawyers Weekly.

Ryan is an experienced counselor and litigator. As a counselor, he routinely advises on contracts and negotiation strategy, including frequently in the areas of franchises; automotive supplier terms and conditions, commercial real estate leases and transactions, and employment agreements. As a litigator he handles a wide variety of matters, which include, automotive supply chain disputes, breach of contract claims; commercial real estate disputes; bankruptcy issues; defamation and other torts; obtaining and defending against injunctions; and divorce and family law matters.

Ryan offers significant real world business and engineering experience that gives him a unique perspective. Prior to law school Ryan worked for publicly traded companies. He worked as an automotive product development engineer at Johnson Controls, Inc. (NYSE: JCI), a Fortune 100 company and one of the world's largest tier one automotive suppliers. He also worked in engineering sales at SPX Corporation (NYSE: SPW), a Fortune 500 industrial conglomerate. He also worked for a joint venture of ALCOA (NYSE: AA), a Fortune 100 producer of aluminum products.

Ryan is on the board of directors of DFCU Financial, one of the state's largest financial institutions which has over \$4 billion in assets. He is also a member of the board's asset liability management (ALM) committee. His duties on the ALM committee include overseeing the company's investment portfolio and monitoring interest rate risk.

### PUBLICATIONS & SEMINARS

"General Motors New Terms and Conditions Effective July 15, 2013," <http://www.dashboard-insights.com/> (July 11, 2013)

"NHTSA Issues Long Awaited Policy Statement on Driverless Car Technology," <http://www.dashboard-insights.com/> (June 13, 2013)

"Driverless Car Technology - Legislation Slow To Keep Pace," <http://www.dashboard-insights.com/> (April 15, 2013)

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### LAW SCHOOL

University of Michigan, 2003

Juris Doctor

### BUSINESS SCHOOL

University of Michigan, 2000

Master of Business Administration

### UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL

University of Michigan, 1997

Bachelor of Science in  
Mechanical Engineering

### AWARDS

Up & Coming Lawyers Award 2012,  
presented by Michigan Lawyers Weekly

Lexis AV Rated (highest rating for  
ethical conduct)

Super Lawyers Rising Star 2013

Super Lawyers Rising Star 2012

## **PUBLICATIONS & SEMINARS** (continued)

“Inside the Minds: Trends In Alternative Dispute Resolution,” chapter titled “A Primer On Alternative Dispute Resolution In Today’s Legal System” (Aspatore Books 2012)

“Strategies Regarding Automotive Contracts,” presented to automotive supplier’s executives (November 2012)

Co-author, “Bankruptcy Preference Payments: Defining “Ordinary” in the Industry - Beyond Common Research,” Unsecured Trade Creditors Committee, American Bankruptcy Institute Committee News, Vol. 10, Number 2 (May 2012)

“Purchasing and Sales Law Boot Camp,” presented to client’s legal, sales and purchasing departments (January and September 2012)

“Non-Compete Agreements: Enforceability, Reasonableness and the Court’s Discretion to Blue Pencil,” Michigan Business Law Journal, Fall 2011, Vol. 31, Issue 3

“Enforceability of International Forum Selection Clauses,” Michigan Business Law Journal, Fall 2010, Vol. 30, Issue 3 (published January 2011)

“Protecting Competitive Business Interests Through Non-Compete Clauses: What Interests Can Legitimately Be Protected?” Michigan Business Law Journal, Summer 2010, Vol. 30, Issue 2

“Conventional Wisdom: Serving Foreign Defendants in Michigan Federal Courts,” Michigan Business Law Journal, Spring 2010, Vol. 30, Issue 1

“Recent Issues With Injunctive Relief in Trademark and Copyright Cases,” presented at Guarding The Treasure: IP Valuation & Remedies (New York, New York, October 2007)

## **SAMPLING OF PRIOR ENGAGEMENTS**

Obtained numerous receiverships over commercial properties and multi-family real estate complexes. Recent engagement involved appointment of receivers on multiple properties across the Michigan that were part of a \$80 million defaulted loan portfolio.

Won numerous motions for summary judgment for lenders faced with lawsuits for improper foreclosure in the wake of Great Recession real estate crash.

Successfully represented lenders in numerous commercial foreclosure matters resulting in obtaining receivers, foreclosing mortgages and negotiating loan work-outs and deeds-in-lieu of foreclosure.

Obtained numerous temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctive relief for automotive clients threatened with the potential shutdown of their operations based on supplier breaches of contracts. He has also successfully defeated actions and dissolved temporary restraining orders for automotive clients.

Successfully defeated a beer distributor’s motion for injunctive relief seeking to enjoin one of the largest breweries in the world from terminating the distributor under a nationwide realignment of its beer distributors.

Represented an automotive client in a \$65 million breach of warranty claim involving the supply of defective automotive component parts manufactured in Brazil. The case was settled one week before trial resulting in a multimillion dollar settlement in the client’s favor.

**SAMPLING OF PRIOR ENGAGEMENTS** (continued)

Defended an automotive client against a \$60 million breach of contract case regarding early termination of a long term supply agreement in which \$40 million was dismissed on summary judgment and a favorable resolution was reached on the remainder at issue.

Won an arbitration award in excess of \$10 million in an automotive supplier dispute involving steel surcharges. Counsel to Venture Industries and Dura Automotive Systems in connection with bankruptcy preference claims which resulted in the successful filing of hundreds of lawsuits and millions of dollars of recoveries.

Represented a retired officer of the United States Air Force regarding defamation claims brought by a former Air Force Academy Cadet. Defeated plaintiff's claims on summary judgment very early in the case.

Represented an architectural consulting firm and immediately after filing a motion to dismiss, plaintiff agreed to dismiss all claims. The case was a personal injury action arising from the defective construction of prison cells. The claims dismissed included negligence and constitutional torts.

Represented a Canadian based international supplier of plywood in a multiparty dispute regarding allegedly defective plywood.

Won partial summary judgment on claims arising from a multimillion dollar promissory note under Article 3 of the Uniform Commercial Code.