

Mike Stinson

Partner

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Minneapolis – 612.492.6624



AS AN ETHICAL, CREATIVE, AND ZEALOUS ADVOCATE, MIKE RELENTLESSLY PURSUES THE FAVORABLE RESOLUTION OF HIS CLIENT'S LITIGATED DISPUTE, WHETHER THROUGH PRE-SUIT NEGOTIATION OR TRIAL AND APPEAL.

Mike is a trial lawyer who has successfully litigated dozens of multimillion-dollar civil disputes to conclusion while representing both plaintiffs and defendants in a wide array of jurisdictions around the United States, including before various state and federal courts and arbitration forums. Mike has achieved favorable outcomes for his clients following bench and jury trials, evidentiary hearings, dispositive motion practice, successful post-judgment appeals, and settlement negotiations. While his practice largely focuses on representing plaintiffs who have been wronged in connection with a commercial transaction or investment, typically as the result of shareholder oppression, fraud, breach of a fiduciary duty, or breach of contract, Mike also has substantial experience pursuing tort claims for personal injury and wrongful death, employment claims for wrongful termination and wage theft, and Section 1983 claims for unwarranted and/or excessive use of force by law enforcement officers acting under color of state law.

In addition, Mike's practice also includes a focus on banking and financial services litigation, tribal lending litigation, and commercial litigation more generally.

Mike maintains a healthy pro bono practice by representing nonprofit organizations and low-income plaintiffs who deserve their day in court. Mike serves on the Board of Directors of Volunteer Lawyers Network, a local nonprofit pro bono legal services organization headquartered in Minneapolis.

Education

- University of Minnesota Law School (J.D., 2011)
 - *magna cum laude*
 - Order of the Coif
 - Law Review Editor
- University of Minnesota (B.S., Economics, 2007)
 - Minor in Statistics
 - Dean's List

Bar Admissions

- Minnesota

Select Experience

Individual Plaintiff-Side Litigation

- Achieved a \$14.5 million trial verdict for his client as lead counsel pursuing fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, and aiding-and-abetting claims, which was later affirmed following Mike's successful argument before the Minnesota Court of Appeals. *Bren Road LLC v. Talon OP, LP, et al.*, No. A23-0248, 2024 Minn. App. Unpub. LEXIS 133 (Minn. Ct. App. Feb. 12, 2024).
- Achieved a \$10 million+ recovery for his client as lead counsel pursuing shareholder oppression and wrongful termination claims.
- Achieved a \$5.25 million class action settlement as lead class counsel for a certified class of owner-operator drivers in resolution of underpayment claims, comprising "greater than 96% of the underpayment or compensatory damages alleged to have been incurred by the Class as a whole," and resulting "in an average net distribution from the Residual Settlement Fund of more than \$15,000 to each Class Member *after* fees, expenses, service awards, and costs of an administration." Order Granting Final Approval of Rule 23 Class Action Settlement at 9, *Sanderson et al. v. JMS Trucking, Inc.*, No. 1:22-cv-00059-LTS-KEM (N.D. Iowa Sept. 18, 2023), ECF No. 61.
- Achieved a \$4.5 million recovery for his client as lead counsel pursuing negligence claims resulting from a motor vehicle accident that caused Mike's client to suffer a traumatic brain injury.

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan
- Mike has also been admitted pro hac vice in numerous courts across the country.

Charitable & Civic Involvement

- Board Member, African Development Center
- Board Member, Volunteer Lawyers Network
- Board Member, Hemophilia Foundation of Minnesota & The Dakotas (HFMD)
- In July 2017, Mike received a letter of acknowledgement of extraordinary and exceptional pro bono service from the Minnesota Supreme Court after being nominated by the Minnesota State Bar Association (through the Judiciary Subcommittee of its Legal Assistance to the Disadvantaged Committee).
- Member of the Hennepin County, State of Minnesota, and Federal Bar Associations.

Accolades

- Consistently providing pro bono legal assistance to those in need through Dorsey's Pro Bono program
- Dorsey & Whitney – Scales of Justice Team Award (Heritage Park HOA Team; Kuehn Class Action Housing Team; Housing Team), 2025
- Top Lawyer in Personal Injury, Minnesota Monthly, 2024
- North Star Award, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2024
- Hussein Samatar Community Service Award, African Development Center, 2018

Select Presentations

Mike has had a role in authoring or appearing on panels for numerous CLE presentations, including:

- Co-Host, *MSBA's Civil Litigation Seminar – Remedies in Commercial Litigation*, Dec. 19, 2023
- Presenter, *Contracts A to Z: Allocating Risk*, Aug. 28, 2024
- Presenter, *Contract Damages and Other Remedies*, Dec. 19, 2023
- Presenter, *Allocation of Risks: Minimize your Client's Liability in Written Contracts*, July 27, 2023
- Co-Presenter, *Deposition Strategies in Personal Injury Cases*, Sept. 16, 2021
- Presenter, *Contract Damages and Other Remedies*, July 30, 2021
- Co-Presenter, *Strategies for Winning Your Preliminary Injunction Motion*, Aug. 20, 2018
- Co-Presenter, *Civil Litigation A to Z: Case Management - Discovery Best Practices in Federal Court*, May 24, 2017
- "False Claims Act Liability and the Role of Compliance Programs for MA Plans, PDPs and QHPs," October 10, 2013, presented by R.J. Zayed and Ross D'Emanuele
- "Bank Liability Under the Uniform Fiduciaries Act: When Does Smoke Mean Fire," June 26, 2013, presented by Peter Carter, Eric Sherman, and Mike Stinson
- "Benefit Plan Discrimination Issues," Feb. 10, 2014, authored by Stephen P. Lucke, Andrew Holly, Michael Stinson, and Jessica Shiffman