Benesch

PRACTICE

Litigation

Benesch's award-winning Litigation Practice Group has secured multibillion-dollar wins for plaintiffs and defendants in precedent-setting cases. We have established ourselves as a "go-to" firm for companies and individuals looking to litigate critical cases with lawyers who appreciate their business objectives.

We have successfully represented public and private companies in high-stakes litigation, from Fortune 50 multinationals to industry-leading family-owned businesses, in nearly every state in the country.

Breadth of Experience

- Multibillion-dollar defamation claims (plaintiff-side)
- The largest environmental cost recovery case in CA (defense-side)
- Large-scale class actions with hundreds of millions in alleged damages (defense-side)
- Every type of commercial litigation matter in between

Practice Partners

- Patent/Intellectual Property
- Healthcare
- Private Equity
- Real Estate
- Labor & Employment

BigLaw Talent

Our Litigation team includes, among others, former partners and associates from:

- Baker McKenzie
- Greenberg Traurig
- Jones Day
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Mayer Brown
- Paul, Weiss
- Quinn Emanuel
- Reed Smith
- Sheppard Mullin
- Sidley Austin
- Skadden
- Steptoe & Johnson
- Troutman Pepper Locke
- Winston Taylor

Numbers & Recognition

160+

Attorneys

Largest practice group at the firm with more than 160 attorneys across all of our offices

100s

of trials across the country where we have been **lead and co-lead counsel**

Highly Recommended Firm

by Benchmark Litigation

Ranked Nationally

by Best Law Firms®

Recognized

by Chambers

Trade Secret Powerhouse

by IAM Patent 1000

BTI Recognition

Recognized in the **2027 BTI Litigation Outlook Report:**

Litigation Powerhouse:
Commercial Litigation
(top 3% of all firms)

Litigation Powerhouse:
Complex Commercial Litigation
(top 4% of all firms)

Litigation Distinguished:
Complex Employment Litigation
(top 10% of all firms)

Litigation **Practice Group**

- **Our litigators have prevailed** in nine-figure trade secret cases; large-scale class actions with hundreds of millions in alleged damages, including consumer fraud and product liability cases, multibillion-dollar securities fraud cases, and billion-dollar environmental disputes; and every type of commercial litigation matter in between.
- **We are on the short list** of the best plaintiff-side defamation attorneys in the country.
- **Our litigators represent plaintiffs in some of the largest defamation cases in history,** including a **$2.7 billion suit** against Fox Corporation, Fox News, Lou Dobbs,Maria Bartiromo, Jeanine Pirro, Rudy Giuliani and Sidney Powell on behalf of Smartmatic.

Go-To **Counsel**

We represent one of the largest IT companies in the world, and one of the largest technology companies in the world that connects consumers with their favorite local and national businesses, as primary litigation counsel in commercial litigation matters across the country regardless of venue and subject matter.

Benesch

Representative **Matters**

- Achieved a significant summary judgment decision for Smartmatic in its defamation case against MyPillow and Mike Lindell. The Court found Lindell's accusations were false and defamatory per se and that MyPillow was vicariously liable for their publication. The ruling also found injunctive relief was appropriate pursuant to the Minnesota Deceptive Trade Practices Act. The case will be proceeding to trial in Minnesota Federal Court in 2026.
- Defended Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) against multimillion-dollar claims for breach of contract stemming from a series of complex construction contracts. After contentious discovery, the parties proceeded to a bench trial in the Circuit Court of Cook County. The Court held in favor of ComEd and the plaintiff is now appealing the ruling.
- Defended Feit Electric in six-year-long litigation brought by a multibillion-dollar Japanese LED lighting company claiming patent infringement and seeking tens of millions of dollars. Following a two-week trial, and after just one hour of jury deliberation, Benesch secured a unanimous verdict of no liability.
- Achieved a resounding pretrial victory for a public university in a case stemming from the death of a student at an off-campus property. The family sued the academic institution for negligence, wrongful death, pain and suffering, and damages for allegedly violating an anti-hazing statute. In granting the summary judgment motion to dismiss all claims, the court set new precedent and vindicated the school's efforts to combat hazing and protect students.
- Represent First Energy in an administrative litigation involving an estimated $1.4 billion in rate increases. The case was litigated by 26 parties, including advocates for residential customers, business customers, environmentalists, competitive retail suppliers, governmental aggregators, wind energy advocates and others. This case will establish cost recovery for major investments made by our client over the next eight years.
- Represented Cisco Systems, Inc. in a nine-figure trade secret misappropriation brought by a former supplier prospect. Negotiated a settlement on the eve of trial after a series of successful motions in limine narrowed the scope of the plaintiff's claim. The settlement amounted to less than 1% of the alleged damages.
- Reached a confidential settlement for Smartmatic in its high-profile defamation suit against Newsmax over the media company's false claims that Smartmatic's voting machines were part of a conspiracy to rig the 2020 election.
- Achieved a favorable verdict representing Gould Electronics in a billion-dollar federal bench trial regarding a complex environmental case where the government sought remediation costs allegedly arising out of the operation of a secondary smelter ($136 million in historical expenditures and up to $700 million in future costs).
- Represented Professional Bull Riders, Inc. (PBR) in the high-profile bankruptcy trial against television personality Dr. Phil's media company, Merit Street Media (MSM). Following a multiday bench trial, Benesch achieved a complete victory when the court found that MSM's Chapter 11 bankruptcy was improperly orchestrated by Dr. Phil for his personal benefit, that Dr. Phil intentionally destroyed critical evidence, and that MSM's bankruptcy professionals lacked independence and violated their duty of candor to the court. The court converted the case to Chapter 7, ensuring MSM's assets and the interests of all creditors are protected.