

Steven F. Barley

Office Managing Partner
Baltimore

Biography

Wins result from more than just in-court advocacy, says Steve Barley; they flow from a sound strategic approach, tactical decision-making, and good old-fashioned hard work. That philosophy has worked well for Steve, who is recognized as one of Maryland's top commercial litigators and has a proven track record of wins when he takes his clients' most difficult cases to trial.

Steve is the Office Managing Partner of our Baltimore office, heads the office Litigation Group, serves as co-head of our Global Life Sciences Litigation Group, and is also a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Steve handles complex commercial and securities litigation matters, including breach of contract and all types of business torts. He handles class actions and consolidated proceedings, and is frequently consulted to help clients assess and reduce risk in advance of litigation. As satisfying as trying and winning a case may be, he believes that a lawyer should first understand the client's business, especially in high-stakes controversies, and how a resolution might influence a client's goals. Once he understands that, he tailors the strategy toward advancing those goals, whether in court or across the bargaining table.



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Practices

Litigation Services

Commercial Litigation

Products Law

Industries

Life Sciences and Health Care

Areas of focus

Corporate and Shareholder
Litigation in the U.S.

Product Litigation

Education and

Steve has a particularly deep understanding of the life sciences industry, and has handled many matters for a wide variety of pharmaceutical, biotech, and device companies – large and small, public and private, based in the U.S., and abroad. He's been at the forefront of some of the largest cases impacting the pharmaceutical industry. He understands supply chain structures and the complicated pricing, marketing, and reimbursement issues related to various government programs. He's also experienced with disputes surrounding collaboration, co-promotion, distribution, and other partnering agreements. Steve is *Chambers* ranked, recognized in *Best Lawyers in America*, and a *Maryland Super Lawyer*.

Representative experience

Defeated expedited motion for preliminary injunction for biotech company in which the plaintiff sought to shut down a clinical cancer trial.

Lead national counsel for biotech company in national class action and state AG cases alleging improper sales, marketing, and pricing practices.

Won motion to dismiss federal securities class action against publicly traded biotech company and defeated effort to enjoin shareholder meeting.

Won motion to dismiss US\$600m lawsuit alleging defamation and other torts in connection with referendum related to Maryland gaming facility.

Won a series of motions to dismiss in various courts over "finder's fee" claim relating to alleged sale of interests in an NFL franchise.

Represented medical device company in national class action by third-party payors asserting consumer protection claims relating to recall of devices.

Representing major laboratory company in national class action alleging failure to adhere to FACTA's credit

admissions

Education

J.D., University of Maryland, Francis King Carey School of Law, with highest honors, 1990

Certification, College for Financial Planning, 1988

B.A., University of Virginia, 1985

Memberships

Instructor, Maryland Institute for Continuing Professional Education of Lawyers, Trial Advocacy Institute

Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers

Bar admissions and qualifications

Maryland

Court admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit

U.S. District Court, District of Maryland

Accolades

"A good advocate for his clients and easy to deal with."

Chambers USA

"A very effective oral advocate" for

and debit card receipt requirements.

Won motion to dismiss business tort claims against laboratory company by health insurer alleging client misled network providers about rates.

Awards and rankings

- Litigation: General Commercial (Maryland), *Chambers USA*, 2007-2020
- Business Litigation, *Maryland Super Lawyers*, 2008-2019
- Commercial Litigation, *Best Lawyers in America*, 2013-2021
- Bet the Company Litigation, *Best Lawyers in America*, 2018-2021
- BTI Client Service All-Star, *BTI Consulting Group*, 2017

Latest thinking and events

- Webinar
 - Managing supply chain disruption in the life sciences and health care industry: Part 2 – Supply chain resilience and supply chain litigation/arbitration
- Webinar
 - Managing supply chain disruption in the life sciences and health care industry: Part 1 – Supply chain risk management and immediate actions
- Webinar
 - COVID-19 and the supply chain – contracts and force majeure
- Webinar
 - How COVID-19 is changing the clinical trials landscape

his clients.

Chambers USA, 2019

"He is 100% committed, focused, and organized."

Chambers USA, 2018

"Someone who can instill confidence in his clients."

Chambers USA, 2018

"Very thoughtful and analytical lawyer."

Chambers USA

"An all purpose trial lawyer who can try anything imaginable."

Benchmark

"Precise, smart, and well-liked by judges."

Chambers USA
