

Louis A. DePaul

MEMBER

Lou DePaul concentrates his practice on business litigation. His practice and experience cover a broad range of business litigation, including complex commercial litigation, real estate litigation, class action litigation, products liability litigation, intellectual property litigation, bankruptcy litigation, and employment disputes. Lou has litigated cases in state, federal, bankruptcy, and appellate courts in multiple jurisdictions and his experience extends to commercial arbitrations and mediation.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Successfully defended a Fortune 500 company from claims for breach of contract in excess of $20 million; after three years of litigation, international corporate plaintiff dismissed the case with prejudice on the eve of trial.
- Obtained an award in excess of $9 million after four weeks of hearings in a complex commercial arbitration on behalf of investors attempting to develop an emerging energy technology.
- Regularly represents owners, managers, real estate and hospitality builders, and developers in matters involving land use, development, zoning, and commercial litigation.
- Regularly represents officers, directors, and closely held corporations regarding corporate governance disputes and shareholder derivative actions.
- Regularly represents businesses in matters concerning trademark protection, infringement, and unfair competition.
- Successfully defended an international seafood manufacturer in a nationwide class action concerning claims of alleged mislabeling (case was settled on favorable terms).
- Successfully defended various online hotel booking agencies in statewide class action concerning the payment of hotel occupancy taxes.
- Successfully defended international oilfield services provider regarding multi-million dollar disputes arising out of a well explosion in a Utica Shale well.
- Represents energy companies in cases involving alleged violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act.

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PRACTICE AREAS:

Litigation

Product Liability

Food Liability Litigation

Class Action Litigation

Intellectual Property Litigation

Construction

Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA)

Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, and Autonomous Transportation Systems

Commercial Litigation

STATE ADMISSIONS:

Pennsylvania

COURT ADMISSIONS:

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

EDUCATION:

J.D., University of Pittsburgh School of Law, 2004

B.S., Highest Graduating Distinction, Carnegie Mellon University, 2001

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Fellow, Allegheny County Bar Foundation
- Allegheny County Bar Association

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- From 2005 to the present, Lou has served as a mentor and teaching assistant for Carnegie Mellon University's Tepper School of Business Senior Management Game Class
- Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix Association, Secretary, Board of Directors
- Moot Court Judge, Carnegie Mellon Moot Court Competition

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2023 – 2027 for Commercial Litigation and Litigation – Real Estate
- Named a Rising Star by *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Magazine* from 2010 – 2018

NEWS AND INSIGHTS

PUBLICATIONS

- "Forum Non Conveniens is Now More Difficult to Assert in Pennsylvania," Eckert Seamans' Legal Update, October 17, 2023.
- "Supreme Court of Pennsylvania Recognizes Cause of Action for "Aiding and Abetting Fraud"" Eckert Seamans' Legal Update, February 2023.
- "Courts Clash Over Application of the Discovery Rule to Breach of Contract Claims," The Legal Intelligencer, October 2019.
- "New Clarity On Expert Testimony in Pa. State Courts," Law 360, August 2019.
- "INSIGHT: Third Circuit Continues to Rein in Runaway TCPA Claims," co-author, Bloomberg Law, July 3, 2018.
- "TCPA Alert: Third Circuit Continues to Rein in Runaway TCPA Claims," Eckert Seamans' Legal Update, June 27, 2018.
- "VoIP Services May Fall Beyond TCPA's Scope," Law360, March 2018.
- "Beware: Inspecting Goods May Waive Implied Warranty Protections," co-authored for LJN's Equipment Leasing Newsletter, May 2017.
- "Examining Pennsylvania's doctrine of unconscionability," co-authored for PA Business Quarterly, January 2017.
- "Pa. Courts Address 'Unconscionability' in Business Contracts," co-authored for The Legal Intelligencer, July 2016.

MEDIA COVERAGE

- "What To Watch As High Court Tackles Robocall Ban's Scope," Law360, December 2020.

- "TCPA Rulings Give Cos. Liability Shield, But No Knockout," Law360, July 2018.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Courtroom Filings: Ethics, Pitfalls, and Best Practices," presented at Eckert Seamans' 2026 Joel Lennen Legal Primer, August 6, 2026.
- "Obtaining Evidence from Electronic Devices in Pennsylvania," National Business Institute, February 26, 2025.
- "Protecting Your Organization During Ancillary Engagements," presented at Eckert Seamans' 2024 Joel Lennen Legal Primer, August 7, 2024.
- "Obtaining Evidence from Electronic Devices in Pennsylvania," National Business Institute, March 8, 2024.
- "Metadata: Everything You Don't Know (But Should)," National Business Institute, October 19, 2023.
- "Rules and Resources You Need to Know," "Obtaining Computer, Email, and Internet Evidence," and "Cameras, Wearable Tech, GPS Devices, and More: Real-World Tips," co-presented at the National Business Institute's *Obtaining Evidence From Electronic Devices in Pennsylvania* webinar program, March 4, 2022.
- "Pleadings & Motions: Civil Practice Tips & Examples," National Business Institute, December 29, 2020.
- "The Pennsylvania Dead Man's Rule" co-presented to the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges at their Mid-Annual Meeting, February 2019.
- "Autonomous Vehicles: Legal Issues to Consider," co-presenter, Eckert Seamans' Continuing Legal Education Seminar, August 2018.