



JOHN T. DUFFEY

Partner
Co-Chair of Business Litigation Group

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OVERVIEW

John Duffey represents clients in complex commercial litigation matters, with a particular emphasis on noncompete, trade secret, product liability, and corporate trust disputes. John helps clients navigate all stages of the litigation process and has significant experience representing large and small businesses in all forums: federal and state courts, arbitrations, and mediations.

John earned his bachelor's degree in history from Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. He earned his law degree, *cum laude*, from the University of Michigan Law School in Ann Arbor, Michigan. During law school, he served as editor-in chief of the *University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform* and was the recipient of the Jeffrey S. Lehman Legal Practice Award and the Sarah Honigman Memorial Award.

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

- Obtained multimillion-dollar judgment for regional accounting firm in noncompete dispute with former partner.
- Secured TROs and preliminary injunctions for medical device manufacturer in actions to enforce noncompetes and other restrictive covenants.
- Represented national banking association in litigation and bankruptcy matters concerning its role as indenture trustee for revenue bond offerings.
- Defended dental practice management company with respect to breach of contract and breach of fiduciary duty claims brought in multiple states.
- Managed e-discovery and related issues in numerous federal and state court actions.

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY

- Maslon UPLIFT: Legal Institute for Teens: Volunteer Coach
- Minnesota State Bar Association

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Litigation

- Business Litigation
- Corporate Trust Litigation
- Employment Litigation
- Tort & Product Liability

Financial Services

- Corporate Trust Litigation
- Corporate Trust Representation

BAR ADMISSIONS

Minnesota

U.S. District Court

- Minnesota
- Michigan, E.D.

EDUCATION

University of Michigan Law School
J.D., *cum laude*, 2011

Duke University
B.A., 2006
History

- Hennepin County Bar Association

SELECTED HONORS

- **Legal 250**, Business Litigation, *Minnesota Lawyer*, 2026
- **Recognized on Minnesota Rising Stars list as part of the Super Lawyers® selection process, 2020-2023** (*Minnesota Rising Stars is a designation given to only 2.5 percent of Minnesota attorneys each year, based on a selection process that includes the recommendation of peers in the legal profession.*)
- **Selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2024-2026**
- **Selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, 2022** (*These awards recognize attorneys, who are earlier in their careers, for outstanding professional excellence in private practice in the United States.*)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- "The In-House Counsel's Guide to Noncompetes and Other Restrictive Covenants," panelist, Association of Corporate Counsel Minnesota, 2026
- "Field Guide to Noncompetes and Other Restrictive Covenants: Navigating a Shifting Enforcement Landscape," co-presenter, Upper Midwest Employment Law Institute, Minnesota CLE, 2026
- "Field Guide to Noncompetes and Other Restrictive Covenants: Navigating a Shifting Enforcement Landscape," co-presenter, Federal Bar Association, 2025
- "Theft and Confidential Information by Departing Employees - A Checklist to Help You Avoid Headaches and Save Money," In-House Super Course, ACC Minnesota, 2019
- "E-Discovery: Practical Tips on Document Management, Preservation and Collection," webcast, Minnesota CLE, 2014

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- "Noncompetition Agreements: The 'Reasonable' Restraint of Trade," *Business Disputes: Claims & Remedies*, Minnesota CLE, 2025
- "Commencing the Action," co-author, *Minnesota Litigation Forms Deskbook*, Minnesota CLE, 2024
- "Noncompetition Agreements: The 'Reasonable' Restraint of Trade," co-author, *Business Disputes: Claims & Remedies Deskbook*, Minnesota CLE, 2023
- "Commencing the Action," co-author, *Minnesota Litigation Forms Deskbook*, Minnesota CLE, 2022
- "Practical Steps for Addressing Employee Theft of Trade Secrets," American Bar Association, 2022
- "Ministers & Missionaries Benefit Board v. Snow: Holding Parties to Their Bargain When It Comes to Contractual Choice-of-Law Provisions," American Bar Association, 2021