



# Michael P. McMahan

PARTNER

Mike focuses his practice on representing automobile dealerships and their principals in high-stakes disputes with automotive manufacturers.



## Industries

[Automotive & Transportation](#)  
— [Automotive](#)

## Practices

[Complex Litigation](#)  
[Insurance & Reinsurance](#)

## Education

New York University School of Law, JD, Web Editor of the NYU Journal of Law and Liberty, 2009

University of Vermont, BA, magna cum laude, 2006

## Offices

[New York](#)

## Phone

[212.484.3982](#)

## Email

[Michael.McMahan@afslaw.com](mailto:Michael.McMahan@afslaw.com)

The automotive group has been recognized by *Chambers USA* as a leader in the category Transportation: Road (Carriage/Commercial). Mike also has a broad background of experience in complex litigation.

## Client Work

Mike helped win an appeal before the New York Court of Appeals on behalf of a New York-based dealership group, which resulted in a precedent setting decision with national implications. The Second Circuit asked the New York Court of Appeals to interpret two provisions of New York's Franchised Motor Vehicle Dealer Act involving sales performance standards and franchise modifications. *Beck Chevrolet Co., Inc. v General Motors LLC*.

Mike has represented and continues to represent dealers of almost every major brand of vehicle sold in the United States, helping dealers and their principals navigate lawsuits from the filing of a complaint, discovery and depositions, and all the way through appeals. Mike has personally handled court hearings, argued before appellate courts, and settled cases all on behalf of dealers.

## Previous Work

Before joining ArentFox Schiff, Mike was an associate at the New York office of a large, international firm, and handled a variety of matters ranging from insurance coverage to securities fraud. Mike was also the lead associate on a trial in New York Supreme Court on a dispute related to a \$1 billion transaction.

## Professional Activities

— New York Inn of Court

—

## Publications, Presentations & Recognitions

---

### Recognitions

- Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, *Best Lawyers* (2024)
- *The Legal 500* - Transport: Rail and Road (2021-2025)

### Publications

- “Advertising In The Age Of COVID: 10 Things You Need To Know”, *New Jersey Auto Retailer*, Pub. 19 2020-2021 Issue 4
- “Dissatisfied with CSI: How to Protect Your Dealership from Manufacturer Abuses,” *New Jersey Auto Retailer*, Issue No. 1, 2019
- [“Stop the Bleeding: Challenging The Manufacturers’ Control of Dealers Through Incentives”](#), *DEFENDER, National Association of Dealer Counsel*, September 2017
- [Dewey Trial Gets Second Run In Morality Play, For CLE Credit](#), *Law360*, June 2016
- BNA: Real Estate Law & Industry [4 REAL 288, 4/19/2011], *Worth the Paper They’re Written on? Completion Guaranties Tough to Enforce*, by Joshua S. Sohn, Jason R. Goldstein, and Mike McMahan

## Life Beyond the Law

---

Mike creates and performs educational musical parodies with fellow lawyers for the New York Inn of Court, such as the critically-acclaimed “Dewey: An Ethical Musical,” and helped write NYCLA’s *The Book of Betty*, a musical tribute to Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin.

### Bar Admissions

[New York](#)  
[New Jersey](#)

### Court Admissions

[US District Court, Eastern District of New York](#)  
[US District Court, Southern District of New York](#)  
[US District Court, District of New Jersey](#)