



John Doroghazi

PARTNER

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John is a Partner in the Litigation Department. He focuses his practice on franchise, class action, and other commercial disputes. Although he relishes trial work, his first concern is cost-effectively securing the ideal business solution for his client.

He has served as lead litigator for one of the nation's leading franchisors and has successfully defended that client and others in a variety of high-stakes franchise-related litigation brought by current and former franchisees, consumers, vendors, and development agents. John's extensive trial and arbitration experience includes being part of a trial team that successfully defended a major franchisor in arbitrations related to a multimillion-dollar contract dispute; successfully obtaining dismissal of a RICO class action brought by a putative class of franchisees against the former owner of a franchise system; and defeating a motion for preliminary injunction brought on behalf of over a hundred franchisees.

John's other primary focus is defending insurance companies, hospitals, banks, franchisors, and financial service companies from both nationwide and state-specific consumer class actions. Among other things, John has served as lead counsel in a series of nationwide class actions brought against a franchisor for its marketing practices.

For a number of years, *Chambers USA Franchise Law – Nationwide* has listed John as an "Up and Coming Practitioner," where one client praised him for "telling me what I need to hear and not what I want to hear." While another client said, "he doesn't give up until he has a good solution or strategy to address our issues." Since 2018, he has been named a "Rising Star" by *Benchmark Litigation* and has been selected by the *Franchise Times* as a "Legal Eagle." *Benchmark Litigation* further recognized John on its 2018 and 2019 "40 & Under Hot List."

John writes and speaks extensively on franchise and consumer class action issues, including co-authoring the Connecticut chapter of an upcoming edition of the Franchise Desk Book. He also has deep knowledge of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), which imposes potentially staggering liability on companies who engage in relatively routine marketing. Drawing from his litigation experience, John works with clients in a variety of industries to assess their marketing practices and develop practical changes that minimize forward-looking risk.

John is the immediate-past Chair of the Connecticut Bar Association's Franchise and Dealership section and an article editor for the Franchise Law Journal.

John received his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Washington University School of Law, where he was an articles editor at the *Washington University Law Quarterly*. After law school, he was a clerk to the Honorable Jean C. Hamilton, U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri. John received his degree *magna cum laude* in English and History from Boston College.

John serves on the board of New Haven Legal Aid and has represented clients on a number of pro bono matters, such as recovering security deposits for low-income renters, protecting Native American prisoners' religious rights, seeking damages for false arrest and wrongful prosecution, and returning children to parents in cross-border custody disputes.

Education

- Washington University School of Law (J.D., 2006)
 - magna cum laude
- Boston College (B.A., 2003)
 - magna cum laude

Bar Admissions

- Connecticut

Court Admissions

- US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- US Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- US District Court (District of Connecticut)
- US District Court (Northern District of Indiana)
- US District Court (Eastern District of Michigan)

- US District Court (Eastern District of Missouri)
- US District Court (Eastern District of New York)
- US District Court (Southern District of New York)

Memberships and Affiliations

- American Bar Association
 - Class Action and Derivative Suits Committee
- American Bar Association
 - Forum on Franchising
 - Article Editor, *Franchise Law Journal*
- Connecticut Bar Association
 - Franchise, Distributor & Dealer Section, President

Publications

June 12, 2017

What's Left to Litigate about Forum Selection Clauses? Atlantic Marine Turns Four
Franchise Law Journal, Volume 36-4, Spring 2017

March 20, 2017

Cause of Action Alchemy: Little FTC Act Claims Based on Alleged Disclosure Violations
Franchise Law Journal

March 3, 2017

Consumer Review Fairness Act Codified Consumers' Right to Complain
TerraLex Connections

February 7, 2017

Congress Protects Negative Online Reviews
CBIA

January 17, 2017

Consumer Review Fairness Act Prevents Companies From Stifling Negative Consumer Reviews

October 25, 2016

Court Rules CFPB Unconstitutional and Finds CFPB Improperly Applied Mortgage Lending and Reinsurance Laws

May 16, 2016

CFPB Proposes Rule Banning Class Action Prohibitions

March 7, 2016

Cellphone User Protection Law Puts Businesses in Peril

Connecticut Law Tribune

December 18, 2015

Supreme Court Shuts Down Consumer Class Action And Requires Individual Arbitration Of Claims

August 24, 2015

Enforcing Prelitigation Mediation Clauses in State Court

Connecticut Law Tribune

August 13, 2015

Second Circuit Clarifies that a Stay, Not Dismissal, Is the Appropriate Federal Arbitration Act Remedy

October 16, 2014

Consumer Class Actions Against Franchise Systems

ABA 37th Annual Forum on Franchising

July 15, 2014

Ninth Circuit Holds Franchisor is Not Liable for Franchisee's Text Message Advertising

January 28, 2014

Supreme Court Limits Removal of State Attorney General Actions to Federal Court

December 17, 2013

Supreme Court Strengthens Forum Selection Clauses

November 20, 2013

Second Circuit Vacates Class Certification, Telling District Court to Decide Summary Judgment First

ABA Commercial & Business Litigation website

September 30, 2013

Basic Strategic Considerations in Defending Consumer Class Actions Against Franchisors

Franchise Law Journal, Vol. 33, No. 22, Fall 2013

September 25, 2013

The Third Circuit Court of Appeals Erects Significant New Barrier to Plaintiffs Seeking to Certify Consumer Classes

August 29, 2013

Recent Second Circuit Decision Determines that Insurance Agent was not a Franchisee Under Connecticut Franchise Act

June 15, 2012

Using Good Judgment to Select Your Judge

Connecticut Law Tribune, Vol. 38, No. 25

May 15, 2012

Federal District Court Compels a Distributorship "Investor" to Arbitrate Claims

January 1, 2012

Class Certification of Consumer Protection Claims against Franchisors

Distribution - The Newsletter of the Distribution and Franchising Committee, Antitrust Section, American Bar Association, Vol. 16, No. 1

May 15, 2005

Gillett-Netting v. Barnhart and Unanswered Questions About Social Security Benefits for Posthumously Conceived Children

83 Wash U. L.Q. 1597 (2005)