



John Doroghazi

PARTNER

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John is a Partner in the Litigation Department. He focuses his practice on franchise, complex commercial, environmental, and class action 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 area representatives. 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 also routinely represents clients in complex commercial and business litigation. His experience includes first chairing an international arbitration regarding patent rights granted under a settlement agreement, successfully defending a medical device manufacturer in a lawsuit alleging breach of a settlement agreement and violation of the Lanham Act, successfully representing a refrigerant gas company in a multi-million dollar dispute over a post-purchase net working capital adjustment, representing a municipality in environmental litigation, successfully defending a publisher in a defamation suit brought after it published a negative book review, and defending a company and its founder from a buyer's post-sale fraud claims.

John has an active practice defending insurance companies, hospitals, banks, franchisors, and financial service companies from both nationwide and state-specific consumer class actions, including under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. 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* has recognized John in its *Franchise Law – Nationwide* category, where clients have praised him as "*a smart and results-orientated attorney*," who is "*incredibly articulate, extremely responsive and attentive to client needs*." He has been selected by the *Franchise Times* as a "Legal Eagle." Outside

the franchise context, since 2018, he has been named a Connecticut “Future Star” and its Northeast region “40 & Under Hot List” by *Benchmark Litigation*.

John writes and speaks extensively on a variety of topics, including franchise and consumer class action issues. He is the current Editor-in-Chief of the *Franchise Law Journal* and has co-authored the Connecticut chapter of the *Franchise Desk Book*.

John is the immediate-past Chair of the Connecticut Bar Association’s Franchise and Dealership section.

John received his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, where he was an articles editor at the *Washington University Law Review*. 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 previously served on the board of New Haven Legal Assistance. He is a member of the committee overseeing the Wiggin Opportunity Initiative. John has represented clients in a number of pro bono matters, such as representing a client seeking damages for wrongfully spending months in jail after being falsely accused of participating in a robbery-murder, protecting Native American prisoners’ religious rights, recovering security deposits for low-income renters, and returning children to parents in cross-border custody disputes.

Education

- Washington University in St. Louis 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
 - Editor-in-Chief, *Franchise Law Journal*
- Connecticut Bar Association
 - Franchise, Distributor & Dealer Section, Immediate Past-President
- New Haven Legal Assistance Association
 - Board Member

Publications

February 21, 2025

2024 M&A Year-End Report

December 22, 2024

The Franchise Law Journal – Fall 2024 | Volume 43, Number 4

October 4, 2024

The Franchise Law Journal – Spring 2024 | Volume 43, Number 3

September 19, 2024

Estate Planning for Franchisees: Ensuring a Smooth Transition

June 10, 2024

The Franchise Law Journal – Spring 2024 | Volume 43, Number 2

May 6, 2024

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency PFAS Enforcement Discretion

February 27, 2024

The Franchise Law Journal – Winter 2024 | Volume 43, Number 1

Franchise Law Journal

February 15, 2024

2023 M&A Year-End Report

Fall 2022

Franchise Law Journal, Vol. 42, No. 2, Fall 2022 Edition

Summer 2022

Franchise Law Journal, Vol. 42, No. 1, Summer 2022 Edition

Spring 2022

Franchise Law Journal, Vol. 41, No. 4, Spring 2022 Edition

Winter 2022

Franchise Law Journal, Vol. 41, No. 3, Winter 2022 Edition

Fall 2021

Franchise Law Journal, Vol. 41, No. 2, Fall 2021 Edition

August 17, 2021

“Franchising & Distribution Currents”

Franchise Law Journal

June 2, 2020

Franchising & Distribution Currents

Franchise Law Journal, Vol. 39, No. 4, Spring 2020 edition

January 22, 2020

Partner John Doroghazi Co-Authors Article for the Franchise Law Journal, “Franchising & Distribution Currents.”

Franchise Law Journal

June 25, 2019

CAVEAT VENDOR!! The Second Prong of the Cigarette Rule is Alive and Well in Several “Little FTC Act” States

ABA Section of Antitrust Law Competition Torts News

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)