



Bernard T. Puglisi

Senior Associate

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Bernard Puglisi is a Senior Associate in the firm's Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice. He focuses his practice on a broad range of commercial litigation issues, including employment and partnership disputes, condominium association matters, breaches of contract and fiduciary duty, fraud and consumer fraud, estates and trusts litigation, and commercial evictions. He brings experience from both the plaintiff and defense sides in areas such as premises liability, product liability, auto negligence, and cases under the Federal Employer's Liability Act (FELA) and Jones Act.

Bernard has experience as an appellate litigation attorney in Detroit, where he specialized in critical motions and complex appellate analysis. During and immediately after law school, Bernard trained under the mentorship of a former Seventh Circuit judicial law clerk, focusing on research and drafting briefs for civil and criminal appeals before the Illinois Appellate Courts and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

Education

- J.D., DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, Illinois, 2019
- B.A. in Political Science and Government, DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois, 2013

Bar & Court Admissions

- Illinois, 2020
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, 2020

Practices

- Business Services
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Privately and Closely-Held Businesses
- Equipment Leasing Finance
- Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Appellate
- Class Action and Multi-Party Litigation
- Construction Litigation

- E-Discovery and Data Management
- Financial Services Litigation
- Health Care Litigation
- Local Counsel Representation
- Municipal and Governmental Litigation
- Trust and Estate Litigation

Industries

- Construction
- Real Estate

Representative Experience

- Successfully upheld a \$500,000 no-fault benefits award to a decedent's estate in Michigan's 1st District Court of Appeals, overcoming an appeal by an AM Best A-rated insurer.
- Secured a ruling in the Illinois Appellate Court, 1st District, vacating the sentence of a defendant charged with firearm offenses, which included the UUWF and armed habitual criminal counts.
- Persuaded the Illinois Appellate Court, 4th District, to reverse an award of sanctions in a farmland adverse possession case due to non-compliance with Illinois Supreme Court Rule 137.
- Achieved reversal in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, reinstating a case against a Will County village where due process rights of the police chief were violated.
- Convinced Illinois Appellate Court, 1st District, to vacate a \$3 million award against a trucking company, overturning trial court findings of discovery misconduct and favoring the company's insurer.
- Restored an Illinois medical doctor's license by invoking Fourth Amendment due process rights after an abrupt suspension by the State of Illinois.

Professional Associations

- Member, Illinois Bar Association
- Member, Chicago Bar Association
- Member, Appellate Lawyers Association