

MEGAN B. POETZEL, Partner

Megan B. Poetzel is a litigator. Businesses rely on her expertise in a wide variety of commercial disputes arising from corporate transactions and contracts. Experienced in federal and state courts and arbitration proceedings throughout the United States, she has handled matters involving such issues as breach of contract, business torts, securities, insurance coverage, class actions and more.

Many of Ms. Poetzel's cases have involved disputes derived from commercial and consumer lending operations. She is a member of the Firm's Complex Commercial Litigation and Class Action Practice Groups. She also is a member of the Real Estate Finance Litigation and Workout Task Force. She serves the Firm as a member of its Finance and Pro Bono Committees.

Ms. Poetzel's litigation experience also includes a number of pro bono matters. She has prepared and presented an amicus brief and served as second chair in a capital murder case.

Business Litigation and Arbitration

- Represented subprime mortgage lender in breach of contract litigation in New York and California, and counsel client regarding potential litigation arising from the subprime mortgage crisis.
- Represents railroad leasing company in Illinois-based breach of warranty action against railcar manufacturer.
- Represented GE Capital in New York and Nevada contract and fraud cases involving the purchase of rental payment streams and the residual value of leased gaming equipment.
- Represented real estate developer in non-compete, contract and trade secrets dispute with former employer litigated in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.
- Represented GE Capital in breach of contract and fraud case arising out of a satellite television financing program. After a six week trial, the Connecticut jury found in favor of GE Capital, and the court entered a \$181 million dollar judgment.
- Represented private label credit card lender in contract dispute regarding transfer of lending relationship and value of written-off accounts.
- Represented LaSalle Bank in dispute related to its administration of certain corporate accounts, obtaining complete judgment for client after summary judgment motions.



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PRACTICE GROUPS

Class Action
Complex Commercial Litigation
Financial Services Litigation
Litigation

EDUCATION

Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology, J.D., 1997; High Honors; Order of the Coif; Executive Articles Editor, *Chicago-Kent Law Review*

University of Michigan, B.S., 1994; Honors Degree

ADMISSIONS

Illinois, 1997

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois, 2000

U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit, 1998

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois, 1998

- Represented a large energy company in a putative securities class action relating to the company's earnings projections, in which Jenner & Block's motion to dismiss prevailed prior to the institution of any discovery.
- Represented Funai Ltd. and Hitachi, Ltd. in litigation involving the alleged infringement of television and semiconductor-related patents.

Insurance and Reinsurance Coverage Litigation and Arbitration

- Represents health maintenance organization in insurance coverage dispute concerning settlement of RICO-based class actions challenging claims handling procedures.
- Represented franchise lending company in insurance coverage arbitration involving secured creditor impaired property insurance.
- Represented large French reinsurer in cases in Illinois and Texas concerning a dispute with its reinsured arising out of a film financing transaction. In connection with that matter, Ms. Poetzel successfully briefed and argued an appeal on forum issues before the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Following a favorable summary judgment ruling, the matter successfully settled.
- Counseled large reinsurance company regarding its directors and officers and errors and omissions exposure from claims arising from securities class actions premised upon allegations of corporate and accounting malfeasance.
- Represented reinsurer of long-term care insurance business in an arbitration with its reinsured that involved complex actuarial issues.
- Represented commercial real estate lender in insurance coverage appraisal proceeding involving the nature, causes, magnitude and valuation of microbial and asbestos damage.
- Counseled major long-term care insurer with respect to underwriting issues arising from a reinsurance audit.

Pro Bono Service

- Represented Eritrean and Malian citizens before the United States immigration courts seeking asylum to avoid persecution and torture in their respective countries of birth.
- Prepared *amicus* brief addressing Constitutional issues in *habeas corpus* case before the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, including presentation of oral argument to the court.
- Second-chaired the representation of an individual in a capital murder case tried to a Cook County, Illinois jury. Argued appeal of matter to the Illinois Appellate Court, successfully obtaining a reversal of the conviction and a remand for a new trial.

Awards

- *Illinois Super Lawyers*
"Rising Star," Business Litigation - 2013

Community

- University of Michigan Alumni Association

Service To The Bar

- American Bar Association
- Chicago Bar Association

Publications

- Client Advisory: Supreme Court Holds Parties May Not Appeal Orders Denying Summary Judgment Following Trial on the Merits, January 25, 2011
- *Reinsurance Reports/Arbitration News*, Spring 2003

Speaking Engagements

- Just the Beginning Foundation Summer Legal Institute, August 05, 2014
- "Subprime Update - Expanding Liability & the Impact on Business Issues," Illinois Bankers Association 2008 Bank Counsel Conference, Chicago, IL, December 05, 2008
- "Sub-prime Litigation Update - Originator Liability Issues," LexisNexis and Jenner & Block Sub-prime Litigation Update Webinar, January 17, 2008