

Michael L. Rich

Principal

Parsippany, NJ

T: (973) 889-4329

E: MLRich@pbnlaw.com

Michael L. Rich represents clients in business and commercial disputes and litigation, with particular expertise handling Chancery litigation disputes. His practice includes shareholder and LLC member oppression actions and other shareholder and partnership break-ups, director and officer liability claims, restrictive covenant litigation, trade secret misappropriation, unfair competition, employment litigation, trust and estate litigation, and other contractual/business tort disputes. He also formerly chaired the firm's Real Estate practice group, and continues to handle real estate litigation, construction disputes, and commercial foreclosures and workouts.

Michael has successfully litigated matters before federal and state courts (both trial and appellate), arbitration panels, and administrative tribunals. Clients, large and small, turn to him for his unique combination of experience, problem-solving abilities, thorough preparation, and deep commitment to serving his clients' interests.

Michael also has served with distinction as a mediator and arbitrator in corporate/commercial, employment and probate litigation matters, and is listed on the roster of Mediators for New Jersey's Statewide Mediation Program for Civil, General Equity, and Probate cases.

Michael presently serves as the firm's General Counsel.

Recognitions

*No aspect of this or any advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey. For ranking methodologies, please see **here**.*

- *The Best Lawyers in America®* - Commercial Litigation (2010-2027); Litigation - Real Estate (2011-2027); Litigation - Labor & Employment (2011-2027)
- Litigation Counsel of America - Fellow
- *Who's Who Legal* - Litigation (2020)
- New Jersey Super Lawyers® (2005-2027)
    - Top 100 (2018)

- Martindale-Hubbell's Peer Review Ratings - AV® Preeminent™ (since 2021)

Memberships

- Trial Law Institute
- Diversity Law Institute
- Morris County Bar Association – Trustee (2005-2009); Chancery Practice Committee, Member (2001-present); Chair (2003-2015)
- New Jersey State Bar Association – Equity Jurisprudence Special Committee (Appointed Member); Civil Trial Bar Section; Labor & Employment Section
- American Bar Association
- Morristown Field Club – Trustee (July 2020-present)
- Morris Educational Foundation – Trustee (2012-2016)
- Employment Horizons – Trustee (2000-2008)
- New Jersey Housing Authority – Commissioner, Morris County (Gubernatorial Appointment) (1991-1997)

News

*No aspect of this or any advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey. For ranking methodologies, please see **here**.*

- 22 Porzio, Bromberg & Newman Attorneys Named to 2027 New Jersey Super Lawyers® and Rising Stars® Lists, 11/16/2026
- 33 Porzio, Bromberg & Newman Attorneys Recognized by *Best Lawyers® 2027*, Including Two "Lawyer of the Year" Recipients, 8/20/2026
- 17 Porzio, Bromberg & Newman Attorneys Named to 2026 New Jersey Super Lawyers® and Rising Stars® Lists, 3/20/2026
- 26 Porzio Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America®* 2026 Edition; 6 Listed as *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®*, 8/21/2025
- 19 Porzio, Bromberg & Newman Attorneys Named to 2025 New Jersey Super Lawyers® and Rising Stars® Lists, 3/20/2025
- 26 Porzio Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America® 2025 Edition*; 6 Listed as *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®*, 8/15/2024
- 18 Porzio Attorneys Named to 2024 New Jersey Super Lawyers® and Rising Stars® Lists, 3/25/2024
- 27 Porzio Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America®*; *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®*, 8/17/2023
- Twenty Porzio Attorneys Recognized in 2023 New Jersey Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists, 5/11/2023

- 24 Porzio Attorneys Recognized in The Best Lawyers ® in America, 2023 Edition, 8/18/2022
- 22 Porzio Attorneys Selected for Inclusion on 2022 New Jersey Super Lawyers List, 4/06/2022
- Congratulations To The 23 Porzio Attorneys Recognized In Best Lawyers® In America, 2022, 8/19/2021
- Congratulations To The 23 Porzio Attorneys Recognized In Best Lawyers In America, 2020, 8/15/2019
- Porzio Victory on Behalf of Fitbit Detailed in Law360 Article, 5/10/2017
- Porzio Recognized in 2016 Top 50 Verdicts in New Jersey, 5/04/2017
- Porzio's Litigation Practice Profiled by New Jersey Law Journal, 11/15/2016

Articles

- Changes in New Jersey Sheriff's Foreclosure Sale: How Residential and Non-Residential Properties Are Impacted - *New Jersey Law Journal*, 4/23/2024
- Voir Dire and Jury Selection Strategies, 12/20/2016
- Can I Judicially Expel My Fellow LLC Member If We Can't Get Along?, 9/22/2015
- Getting a Divorce from your Business Partner, 5/15/2014
- The Business Judgement Rule: Partial Armor for Directors and Officers, April 2014
- The Business Divorce: A Primer on Minority Oppression Rights, 4/01/2013
- Breach of Restrictive Covenants, 10/24/2011
- Fair Value and Discounting in N.J. Shareholder Oppression Case, 11/03/2008

Speaking Engagements

- "Cross-Examination and Redirect – Focus on Experts and Evidence", NBI Advanced Trial Tactics Seminar, 12/19/2018
- "Voir Dire and Jury Selection Strategies" and "Cross-Examination and Redirect – Focus on Experts and Evidence", NBI Advanced Trial Tactics Seminar, 12/20/2016
- "Top 5 in Business Torts," New Jersey Association of Justice Boardwalk Seminar® 2015, 4/30/2015
- "Business Valuation Roundtable: The Business Divorce," New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants , 4/21/2015
- "Business Divorce – The Issues, The Drama, The Tax" , November 17-18, 2014 and August 6, 2014
- Moderator, "Small Business Breakups – Avoiding a Repeat of the French Revolution," NJSBA Mid-Year Meeting, Paris, France, 11/03/2014

Michael L. Rich Cont.

Practices

- Litigation
- Employment & Labor
- Corporate
- Real Estate

Area of Focus

- Commercial Litigation
- Restrictive Covenants
- Business Divorce
- Directors & Officers Liability
- Real Estate Litigation
- Trade Secrets
- Trusts & Estates Litigation
- Arbitration & Mediation

Industries

- Chemical
- Life Sciences
- Manufacturing
- Third-Party Logistics
- Warehousing & Storage

Prior Relevant Experience

- Dillon, Bitar & Luther, L.L.C., Morristown, New Jersey: Partner (1990-2006), Associate (1984-1989)

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey, 1984

Court Admissions

- United States District Court, District of New Jersey, 1984

Michael L. Rich Cont.

- United States Supreme Court, 1989
- United States Court of Appeals, Third Circuit, 1993

Education

- *American University Washington College of Law*
  J.D., 1984
  cum laude; Washington College of Law Honor Society
- *Gettysburg College*
  B.A., 1981
  magna cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa