

# chapman | spingola

Douglas F. McMeyer  
Phone | (312) 606-8742  
E-mail | [dmcmeier@chapmanspingola.com](mailto:dmcmeier@chapmanspingola.com)

“ I strive to understand my clients, their business, and the needs of the business globally and within the context of the litigation in order to obtain the best results possible for them, even if that means taking a case all the way through trial and appeals.”

Douglas F. McMeyer | Partner



I am a litigator. My focus in every matter is to find the most direct and cost effective means of achieving the objectives of my client. Achieving my clients' goals often requires thinking outside the box and trying to craft creative solutions to complex and entrenched disputes. I strive to understand my clients, their business, and the needs of the business globally and within the context of the litigation in order to obtain the best results possible for them, even if that means taking a case all the way through trial and appeals.

I have significant experience in state and federal courts and regularly work for clients in the areas of complex commercial litigation, breaches of fiduciary duty, trade secrets, toxic torts, product liability, contracts, debt collection, and internal investigations.

I am also a dedicated proponent of pro bono service and almost always have at least one pro bono matter I am working on. My commitment to volunteering has been life long and has included numerous instances of community service, two tours in AmeriCorps, serving as a legal advocate for a domestic violence and sexual assault center in central Illinois, and an additional two years as staff for the same shelter.

Before joining Chapman Spingola, I clerked for the Hon. Rita B. Garman, now the Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court, was an associate at Jenner & Block, and a senior associate with Husch Blackwell.

## Representative Matters

- Defended a major manufacturer of building insulation systems in a significant action alleging false advertising, tortious interference, and other related torts. The trial court granted partial summary judgment in our favor, denied the Plaintiff's motions for summary judgment and forced settlement on favorable terms.
- Defended a metal product manufacture against claims that it stole trade secrets and breached other fiduciary duties. We obtained summary judgment on behalf of our client and successfully defended that judgment on appeal to the Seventh Circuit.
- Appointed a Special Assistant Attorney General to defend a state institution in a Section 1983 case alleging a violation of individuals' first amendment rights.
- Briefed, argued, and won *In re; Benjamin Hernandez* before the Illinois Supreme Court.
- Represented individuals detained in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Assisted with *habeas corpus* petitions and preparing cases for presentation to the military tribunal.

## Articles

- Contingency Fee Plaintiffs' Counsel and the Public Good?, *In-House Defense Quarterly*

## Experience

- Senior Associate, Husch Blackwell LLP
- Associate, Jenner & Block LLP
- Clerk, Chief Justice Rita B. Garman – Illinois Supreme Court
- Legal Advocate/Community Educator, A Woman's Fund, Inc.
- Team Member, AmeriCorps/Comprehensive Homelessness Response Team

## Professional Activities

- Member of DRI
- DRI's Commercial Litigation Committee
- Member Illinois State Bar Association

## Clerkship

- Hon. Rita B. Garman, Chief Justice Supreme Court of Illinois

## Education

University of Illinois College of Law – *summa cum laude*

- Order of the Coif
- Rickert Awards for Excellence in Advocacy and Excellence in Service
- CALI Awards in Constitutional Law and Fact Investigation
- Best Oral Advocate in the Frederick Green Moot Court Competition
- Selected as Counsel for the Federal Civil Rights Trial Program
- National Moot Court Team Member and Moot Court Board
- Civil Litigation Clinic and Clinical Assistantship

Wabash College – *cum laude*

- Received Distinction in Senior Comprehensive Exams
- Winner of the Joseph O'Rourke Jr. Prize in Speech
- Third Place in the Harrison Essay Competition
- Elected to the National Debate Competition Team
- Speaker of the Parliamentary Union
- Finalist in the Wabash Moot Court Competition
- Offensive Lineman for the Wabash College Little Giants

## Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of the State of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (Trial Bar)
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- Supreme Court of the United States of America