



The Business Suit

The Newsletter of the
Commercial Litigation Committee

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Member Spotlight



Mark Ludolph

Mark is a partner in the Peoria, Illinois office of Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen. He is the co-chair of the firm's Business & Commercial Litigation Practice Group and Chair of the Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy Practice Group. He is also the supervisor of the nearly 30 paralegals in the firm's 6 offices. He focuses his practice on commercial litigation and creditors' rights and bankruptcy litigation.

Mark represents commercial lenders, financial institutions and other creditors in enforcing secured and unsecured claims in the state and federal courts. He is admitted to practice in Illinois and Missouri and represents creditors in Chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 bankruptcies in the Bankruptcy Courts of Northern, Central and Southern Districts of Illinois, the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri and the Southern District of Iowa. He represents construction clients and property owners in mechanics lien disputes. He also represents creditors in foreclosure actions and he has extensive experience litigating contract claims. Mark also has an active asbestos and toxic tort practice. He represents product, equipment and premises defendants in asbestos litigation throughout Illinois. He has responsibility for all areas of case development and trial preparation.

Mark has represented a large cross-section of clients in litigation, including financial institutions, commercial lenders, property owners, professionals, not-for-profit corporations Fortune 500 corporations, and individuals. He became a member of DRI in 2000 and is currently the On-line Community Vice-Chair for the Commercial Litigation Committee.

When and where did you graduate from law school?

University of Illinois College of Law, 1997

What area(s) of law do you currently practice?

Primarily litigation, focusing on commercial litigation, creditors' rights and bankruptcy and the toxic tort (asbestos) defense.

Why did you get involved with DRI?

My firm has a long history of involvement in DRI and considers it an important professional obligation both in developing professional relationships and an excellent resource for CLE.

How does DRI help you with your practice?

It is a great resource for both receiving and seeking referrals. It helps me to stay current with emerging developments in the law. It has also allowed me to connect personally with some great attorneys from around the country.

When you are not practicing law, what do you enjoy doing?

In the fall, I help coach my son's junior football team. It is an opportunity to spend time 4-5 days a week with my son on something we both enjoy immensely. I also enjoy cooking for friends and family. Every Thanksgiving our family hosts a dinner for 40-50 friends and family and I do most of the cooking. I also BBQ and we have an annual event for 50 or so people with pulled pork, ribs, wings and

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Committee Leadership



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something called bacon explosion. I am also a voracious reader and especially enjoy South Florida crime fiction.

If you were not a lawyer, what would you be?

I have never really given much thought to this. I have been practicing for nearly 20 years and really can't imagine life as anything but a lawyer.

What is your favorite memory of your legal career thus far?

It really isn't anyone event it is being fortunate enough to be a part of a great firm. The firm is 106 years old and we have 130 attorneys in six offices around the state of Illinois. I consider it a blessing to be a part of a great firm and to truly like and respect the folks with whom I work.

If you could have a conversation with anyone of your choosing, alive or dead, who would that be?

I should probably say someone like Clarence Darrow and it would have been amazing to be a fly on the wall at the cocktail parties attended by Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsberg and Antonin Scalia. In reality, I lost my mom when I was eight years old and would treasure the opportunity to get to know her as a person and see what she would think of what I have done with my life.

What is a hidden talent you have that no one knows?

I brew my own beer. I learned to brew in law school and make a pretty fantastic Key Lime Pale Ale.

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