Jon Devendorf

Partner

Syracuse
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Education

- St. John's University School of Law, JD
- State University of New York at Binghamton, BA

Practices & Industries

- Commercial Litigation & Complex Trials
- White Collar & Government Investigations

Admitted to Practice

- New York

Court Admissions

- US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- US District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- US District Court for the Northern District of New York
- US District Court for the Southern District of New York

Biography

A trial attorney with over 25 years of litigation experience in state and federal courts, administrative and regulatory forums, arbitration, and other forms of alternative dispute resolution, Jon handles a wide array of complex commercial and real estate litigation matters. As noted by a client in *Chambers & Partners*, Jon “is a very good litigator. He deals with complicated subject matter in litigation and is able to learn on the fly. He also has great client control.”

Jon prosecutes and defends claims involving business contracts, partnership agreements, shareholder interests, corporate dissolution, financial disputes, and other business interests. He also draws upon his early training as an assistant district attorney to investigate, prosecute, and defend matters involving corporate claims for damages and asset recovery for employee deceit, misconduct, and fraud. His clients include public and private companies, regulated entities, sole-member and closely held businesses, and individuals.

In real estate matters, Jon represents title insurers, title agencies, land-use organizations, member associations, and individuals in disputes concerning real estate interests. He regularly handles actions involving title to real property, boundary disagreements, easements and land-use rights, waterfront interests, and timber disputes.

Bar Associations

- Onondaga County Bar Association, Board of Directors Member

Representative Experience

- Represents government interests in multi-jurisdiction Native American land claims.
- Represents multinational telecommunication companies in contract disputes and constitutional challenges to prohibitive regulatory codes.
- Represents regulated utilities in the prosecution and defense of multi-million contract claims and business disputes.
- Represented a $10 million trust and fiduciary in contested accounting and decanting proceedings.
- Represented a historic foundation in legal proceedings involving title, possession, and deaccessioning claims on a Thomas Cole master painting.
- Represented a Fortune 100 defense contractor in defense-of-contract action and the prosecution of counterclaims.
- Defended a class-action lawsuit for a major NYC retailer.
- Prosecuted a lawsuit for a multinational manufacturer to recover business opportunity and other losses.
- Prosecuted fraud, waste, and corporate malfeasance claims in derivative action, leading to a multi-million settlement.
- Defended shareholder-derivative action for a major manufacturer, leading to case dismissal.
- Defended a franchisee against an automobile manufacturer in termination action.
- Defended a class-action lawsuit seeking to block a bank merger.
- Administering a $10 million taxable estate, including extensive real estate holdings in a contested estate with a lost will and potential right of election.

Prior Experience

- Hiscock & Barclay, LLP, Partner
- Westchester County, New York, Assistant District Attorney

Selected Community Activities

- Boys & Girls Club of Syracuse, Executive Board Member
- United Way Policy Council for Success by Six, Legislative Team Chair

Selected Honors

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®: Commercial Litigation, 2019–2027
- *Chambers USA*, Upstate New York: Litigation: General Commercial, 2015–2026
- *Legal 500*, New York City Elite, Commercial Disputes, 2025
- Selected to *Super Lawyers* Upstate New York: Business Litigation, 2009–2025
- *Daily Record*, Power 20 Litigation List, 2021
- Barclay Damon, Clifford H. Wilson Award for Excellence in Mentoring

Selected Alerts & Blog Posts

- Anticipate Litigation? Better Saved Than Sanctioned: When to Preserve Electronically Stored Information - Federal Courts' Zubulake Standard Adopted in New York