



Joseph L. Buckley

Member



Newark, NJ



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Joseph L. Buckley is a member of the Firm's Management Committee and Chair of the Litigation Department. He has over 35 years of first chair trial experience in a wide variety of complex cases in federal and state courts in New Jersey and New York. He is certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Civil Trial Attorney.



As Chair of the Firm's Litigation Department, Mr. Buckley accepted the *Benchmark Litigation* award for "New Jersey Firm of the Year" for seven consecutive years (2023-2017) and, in 2023, 2020, 2019 and 2016 accepted the award for "General Litigation Department of the Year - Midsize" from the *New Jersey Law Journal*. In 2021, Mr. Buckley was included on the *New Jersey Super Lawyers* "Top 100" list published by Thomson Reuters. See *Award Methodology*. No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

Mr. Buckley serves as leader of the Firm's Banking Litigation Group. He has handled many large litigations for nationally prominent banks, overseeing the process from inception to trial and appeal. He has served as lead counsel to major national banks and their subsidiaries in the defense of putative class action lawsuits venued in state and federal courts in New Jersey and elsewhere, relating to subjects as diverse as equipment leasing, credit insurance, information security, credit cards, ATM fees and an alleged conspiracy to fix interest rates. He has successfully defended large national banks in lawsuits in which tens of millions of dollars in damages were at issue, and has also assisted banks in the recovery in excess of \$100 million from borrowers and others.

In 2015, Mr. Buckley represented the State of New Jersey in a large, commercial litigation and eventual settlement of a dispute with Hammerman & Gainer, Inc. (HGI), the principal contractor involved in recovery efforts in the aftermath of Super Storm Sandy. The settlement amounted to approximately a third of HGI's demand.

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In addition, for more than 25 years, Mr. Buckley has represented data and analytics firms and other computer technology companies, medical device manufacturers, insurance companies, companies that invest in real estate, non-bank financial services companies and subsidiaries of European automobile manufacturers.

After 25 days of trial in the Superior Court of Morris County, Mr. Buckley obtained a multi-million dollar verdict for lost profits on behalf of a client in a dispute between partners of an investment advisory firm. That verdict was affirmed on appeal. Since that trial, Mr. Buckley has assisted the same client in litigation against the same adversary in New Jersey, New York, Delaware and Florida in obtaining awards and recoveries well in excess of \$25 million.

Practices

Banking and Finance Litigation
Class Action Litigation
Litigation
Secured Creditor Litigation

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey

U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York

U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit

U.S. Supreme Court

Representative Decisions

Bankers Conseco Life Ins. Co. v. Wilmington Trust, N.A., 2023 NY Slip Op 01835 (N.Y. App. Div. 1st Dep't 2023)

April 6, 2023

Bankers Conseco Life Ins. Co. v. Wilmington Trust, N.A. 195 A.D. 3d 109 (N.Y. App. 1st

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Dep't 2021)

April 20, 2021

Bankers Conseco Life Ins. Co. v. Egan-Jones Ratings Co., 193 A.D. 3d 539 (N.Y. App. 1st Dep't 2021)

April 20, 2021

Bankers Conseco Life Ins. Co. v. KPMG, 189 A.D. 3d 402 (N.Y. App. 1st Dep't 2020)

December 1, 2020

Carter v. Bentley Motors Inc., No. 1:19-CV-18035-NLH-JS, 2020 WL 5743042 (D.N.J. Sept. 25, 2020)

September 25, 2020

Salovaara v. Eckert, (N.Y. Sup.), 2019 NY Slip Op 31538(U)

May 31, 2019

Bankers Conseco Life Ins. Co. et al. v. Feuer et al., 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 43828 (S.D.N.Y. 2018)

March 13, 2018

Thomas Barr IV v. Bentley Motors Limited, et. al., 2017 N.Y. Misc. LEXIS 5275 (2017)

December 5, 2017

Barr v. Attorney Gen. of the State of N.Y., et al., (N.Y. Sup.), 2017 NY Slip Op 50271(U) [54 Misc 3d 1222(A)]

March 2, 2017

Thomas Barr IV v. Bentley Motors Limited, et al., 2016 N.Y. Misc. LEXIS 4139 (2016)

November 3, 2016

Thomas Barr IV v. Bentley Motors Limited, et al., 2016 N.Y. Misc. LEXIS 4126 (2016)

October 25, 2016

Juster Acquisition Co., LLC v. North Hudson Sewerage Authority, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 8703 (D.N.J. 2014)

January 23, 2014

Archbold, et al. v. Hampden Bancorp, Inc. et al., Civil Action No. 12-3873 ES-JAD, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 187560 (D.N.J. Sept. 30, 2013)

September 30, 2013

Archbold, et al. v. Hampden Bancorp, Inc. et al., Civil Action No. 12-CV-3873 ES-JAD, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 187552 (D.N.J. Sept. 9, 2013)

September 9, 2013

Juster Acquisition Co., LLC v. North Hudson Sewerage Authority, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 18372 (D.N.J. 2013)

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February 11, 2013

EMC Corporation v. Emanuel Arturi, et al., 655 F.3d 75; 2011 U.S. App. LEXIS 17834 (1st Cir. 2011)

August 26, 2011

EMC Corporation v. Emanuel Arturi, et al., 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 132621 (D. Mass. 2010)

December 15, 2010

State of West Va. ex rel. Citifinancial, Inc. v. Hon. John T. Madden, et al., 223 W.Va. 229, 672 S.E. 2d 365 (2008)

December 10, 2008

DialAmerica Marketing, Inc. v. Citicorp Credit Services, Inc., 2008 N.J. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 3039

November 19, 2008

In re NETtel Corporation, Inc., et al., Debtors. Wendell W. Webster, Trustee, Plaintiff v. Fujitsu Consulting, Inc., 369 B.R. 50; 2007 Bankr. LEXIS 1796 (2007)

May 22, 2007

Hing Q. Lum, et al., Appellants v. Bank of America, et al., 2007 U.S. App. LEXIS 10812 (3d Cir. 2007)

May 7, 2007

F. James Donnelly, P.C. v. Copelco Capital Inc. 2007 WL 1062066 (N.J. Super. A.D.)

April 11, 2007

Lucent Technologies Inc. v. Dicon Fiberoptics, Inc., 2006 WL 2290522 (D.N.J.)

August 8, 2006

Salovaara v. Eckert, 2006 WL 941792 (N.J. Super. A.D.)

April 13, 2006

Cunningham v. Citigroup, 2005 U.S. Dist. LEXIS, 33805 (D.N.J. Dec. 16, 2005)

December 16, 2005

Salovaara v. Eckert, 2005 WL 41560 (N.Y. Sup.), 2005 N.Y. Slip Op. 50010 (U)

January 4, 2005

Gardner v. Bank of America Nat. Trust and Savings Ass'n, 2004 WL 5211176 (N.J. Super. A.D.)

December 27, 2004

Salovaara v. Eckert, 2004 N.J. Super. LEXIS 497

May 25, 2004

Lum v. Bank of America, et al., 361 F.3d 217 (3d Cir. 2004)

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March 11, 2004

Salovaara v. SSP Advisors, L.P., et al., 2003 WL 23190391 (Del. Ch. 2003) (affirmed, 2004 WL 1737103 (Del. Supr.))

December 22, 2003

Salovaara v. Eckert, 2003 WL 23517124 (N.J. Ch. 2003)

January 13, 2003

Carmine Restaurant, Inc. v. Citibank, N.A., 300 A.D.2d 149, 752 N.Y.S.2d 49, 49 UCC Rep. Serv.2d 1266 (1st Dep't 2002)

December 19, 2002

Salovaara v. Eckert, 2002 WL 32396171 (N.J. Ch. 2002)

September 24, 2002

Sidney A. Friedman and Corporate Financial Services, Inc. v. Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, Inc., 1999 N.J. Super. LEXIS 477

January 8, 1999

Coastal Group, Inc. v. Westholme Partners, 1998 WL 34233133 (D.N.J.), affirmed, 229 F.3d 1137 (3d Cir. 2000)

December 15, 1998

Rolo v. City Investing Co., 155 F.3d 644 (3d Cir. 1998)

October 2, 1998

Salovaara v. Eckert, 1998 WL 34075425 (N.J. Super. Ch. 1998)

July 14, 1998

Trecom Business Systems, Inc. v. Prasad, 980 F. Supp. 770 (D.N.J. 1997)

October 6, 1997

Continental Bank Real Estate Department v. New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, 97 N.J.A.R.2d (CAF) 100 (1997)

July 8, 1997

United States Small Business Administration v. Citibank, N.A., 31 U.C.C. Rep. Serv.2d 795 (S.D.N.Y. 1997)

February 4, 1997

Coastal Group, Inc. v. Westholme Partners, 1996 WL 33545605 (D.N.J.1996)

October 3, 1996

Burns & Beck v. Citibank, N.A., 640 N.Y.S.2d 90 (1st Dep't 1996)

April 4, 1996

In the Matter of the Application for a Rental Increase at Jasontown II Apartments, 96

Sills Cummis & Gross P.C.

N.J.A.R. 2d (HFA) 1; 1994 N.J. AGEN LEXIS 649

August 4, 1994

Schachter v. Citibank, N.A., 193 A.D.2d 593, 597 N.Y.S.2d 453 (2nd Dep't 1993)

May 3, 1993

Teamsters Industrial Employees Welfare Fund v. Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, Inc., 989 F.2d 132 (3rd Cir. 1993)

March 22, 1993

Sadler v. Citibank, N.A., 947 F.2d 642 (2d Cir. 1991)

October 22, 1991

Titus v. Rolls-Royce Ltd., 174 A.D.2d 322, 570 N.Y.S.2d 543 (1st Dep't 1991)

June 4, 1991

Kaufman v. Downey, 1991 WL 11723381 (N.J.Super.L.)

May 10, 1991

Newsroom

Press Releases

Sills Cummis & Gross Named “New Jersey Firm of the Year” 2023 by Benchmark Litigation

March 16, 2023

Sills Cummis & Gross Recognized in 2023 Edition of Benchmark Litigation

October 5, 2022

New Jersey Appellate Court Affirms Finding that Investment Banker Alfred C. Eckert, III Engaged in Bad Faith and Willful Misconduct and Is Barred from Receiving \$2.7 Million

April 17, 2006

The Star-Ledger: “Judge Rules Against Money Manager”

October 4, 2002

In the News

‘Excellent Client Service and Truly Listening’ Drive Results For Sills Cummis

New Jersey Law Journal

August 31, 2023

KPMG Can’t Duck Ponzi Fraud Claims, NY Appeals Court Says

Law360

Sills Cummis & Gross P.C.

December 2, 2020

'A Priority to Understand Each Client's Business Goals' Drives Success at Sills Cummis

New Jersey Law Journal

August 31, 2020

NJ Attys Wary to Take Path Opened for Live Video Testimony

Law360

February 10, 2020

Sills Cummis 'Built on a Singular Idea,' Litigation Group Says of Strong 2018

New Jersey Law Journal

June 3, 2019

Reinsurance Execs Can Arbitrate \$50M RICO Suit, Judge Says

Law360

March 16, 2018

Law Firms 'Play Ball' for Greater Newark Fresh Air Fund

The Star-Ledger

July 28, 2017

New Jersey Law Journal 2016 General Litigation Department of the Year Winner, Midsized Firm

New Jersey Law Journal

November 14, 2016

Firms Strive for Adaptability in Uncertain Litigation Market

New Jersey Law Journal

March 30, 2015

Employer Can't Extend Non-compete Agreement

Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly

September 12, 2011

EMC Can't Stop Ex-Employee From Competing: 1st Circ.

Law360

August 26, 2011

A Group Approach to Coping with the Subprime Mortgage Crisis

The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel

March 1, 2008

Presentations

Newark YMCA 25th Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Sills Cummis & Gross P.C.

Newark YMCA
October 30, 2018

Newark YMCA 23rd Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Newark YMCA
October 25, 2016

Newark YMCA 21st Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Newark YMCA
October 28, 2014

Newark YMCA 20th Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Newark YMCA
November 18, 2013

Newark YMCA 19th Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Newark YMCA
November 28, 2012

Newark YMCA 18th Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Newark YMCA
November 29, 2011

Newark YMCA 17th Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Newark YMCA
November 30, 2010

Complex Business Litigation Seminar

Current Topics in Complex Business Litigation
New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education
June 18, 2010

Newark YMCA 16th Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Newark YMCA
December 1, 2009

Newark YMCA 15th Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Newark YMCA
December 2, 2008

Newark YMCA 14th Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Newark YMCA
November 27, 2007

Newark YMCA 12th Annual Leaders and Legends Scholarship Dinner

Newark YMCA
November 29, 2005

Publications

Best Practices for Maintaining the Attorney-Client Privilege in Email Communications

The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel

November 1, 2004

Rankings and Recognition

Selected for inclusion in:

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®* 2003-2024, Commercial Litigation; Litigation – Banking and Finance; Banking and Finance Law
- *Benchmark Litigation: America's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys*®* 2008-2023
- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*®* 2006, 2009, 2012-2023, New Jersey Litigation: General Commercial
- *New Jersey Super Lawyers*®* 2006-2023, Business Litigation; Banking
- *New Jersey Super Lawyers*®* "Top 100 Super Lawyers" 2021
- *New York Metro Super Lawyers*®* 2006-2007, 2014-2023, Business Litigation; Banking
- *Martindale-Hubbell*®* AV rating

* See [Award Methodology](#). No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

Affiliations

Professional Affiliations

Member, Editorial Board (2010-present), New Jersey Law Journal

Senior Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America

Fellow, American Bar Foundation

Member, Rutgers Business School Finance Advisory Board (2005-2017)

Member, Certified Attorneys, Civil Trial and Banking Sections, New Jersey State Bar Association

Member, Association of the Bar of the City of New York

Member, Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey

Sills Cummis & Gross P.C.

Member, Federal Bar Council

Member, New York State Bar Association

Member, Litigation Section, American Bar Association

Member, Medal of Honor Annual Award Reception Dinner Committee, New Jersey State Bar Foundation (2016)

Community Affiliations

Member (2004-2015, 2017-present) and *Member*, Finance Committee (2010-2015), Newark Museum Board of Trustees

Member (2003-present), *Vice Chair* (2005-2006), *Chair*, Leaders and Legends Dinner Committee (2006-present), *Member*, Audit Committee (2013-2015), Newark YMCA Board of Trustees

Head Coach (1994-2000), Traveling Basketball, Millburn Township Board of Recreation

Chain Manager (1995-1998) and *Manager* (1992-1997), Millburn Short Hills Little League

Coach (1995), Millburn Soccer Association

Education

J.D., The University of Chicago Law School

B.A., Rutgers University, *with high honors*

Bar Admissions

New Jersey

New York