



BRETT S. KRANTZ

Over the 25-plus years of Brett's legal career, he has counseled a diverse client base including individuals, owners of regulated and non-regulated companies, small entrepreneurial entities and large public corporations. He counts among his clients both broker-dealers and investment advisors. His areas of practice include regulatory matters, non-profit and shareholder disputes, and securities.

In addition to his service to clients in day-to-day matters, Brett is also a skilled litigator who has handled business-to-business commercial disputes and securities issues involving the Federal Courts, FINRA, the SEC and state securities regulators. Brett also represents clients in regulatory reviews and investigations of securities practices, business practices relating to consumer sales, and business planning and litigation involving the Ohio Alcoholic Beverages Franchise Act.

Brett's approach is to assist businesses and individuals in maximizing their growth by limiting litigation and regulatory risk. He makes sure that the legal strategy he advises is always aligned with each client's unique business goals. He also holds a position of leadership within the firm as a member of KJK's Executive Committee, Chair of the Litigation Practice Group, and Chairman of the Board of Managers of Connective Counsel.

Outside of his work at KJK, Brett is civically involved in his home community of Shaker Heights, where four generations of his family have resided.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Served as trial counsel in such cases as:

- Two related trials involving disputes between owners of a broker-dealer; obtained injunctive relief against majority owners, a finding of defamation against them and a total dismissal of all claims against the firms' clients
- A month-long, multi-party AAA dispute involving the sale by a Fortune 100 company of its federally regulated subsidiary
- A case involving three large nonprofits in an eight-figure FINRA arbitration in one of the first collateralized debt obligations cases to go to trial

CONTACT

- 216.736.7238
- BK@kjk.com

PRACTICE AREAS

- Litigation
- Securities

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Meritas
 - Board of Directors, 2016 – 2018
 - Membership Committee, 2014 – Present
 - Annual Meeting Planning Committee, 2016
 - Annual Meeting Planning Committee, chairman, 2017
 - Executive Committee, member, 2018
 - Board of Directors, vice chair, 2018
 - Quality Assurance Committee, chairman, 2018

CLEVELAND OFFICE
1375 East Ninth Street
One Cleveland Center + 29th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114

216.696.8700

COLUMBUS OFFICE
10 West Broad Street
One Columbus Center + Suite 1900
Columbus, OH 43125

614.427.5731

KJK.com

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- Mandel JCC, Board of Directors, 2017
- Camp Wise, Advisory Board, 2013-2016 Strategic Planning Committee, 2015
- Positive Education Program, Board of Directors, 2008-2016, Executive Committee, member

AWARDS

- Selected to Ohio Super Lawyers, 2008-2020
- Martindale-Hubbell AV® Preeminent™ Rating for Highest Level of Professional Excellence

EDUCATION

- University of Chicago Law School, J.D., 1990
- Dartmouth College, A.B., 1985

- Obtained substantial settlement in a suit brought by former minority owner against majority owner alleging self-dealing and breach of fiduciary duty
- Served as counsel for a class in a seven-year-long fraud litigation matter which included a recommended default judgment against another party due to their discovery abuses; class was repaid their entire loss
- Representing companies and individuals in numerous state and federal regulatory investigations involving consumer protection and securities laws



Brett has been a valuable member of our team, providing practical and pragmatic advice as we navigated buy-sell transactions, federal and state compliance and investigations and the many other challenges that go with operating a business.



LOUIS GIESLER

FORMER PRESIDENT OF AMERIMARK DIRECT, LLC

COLUMBUS OFFICE

10 West Broad Street
One Columbus Center + Suite 1900
Columbus, OH 43125

614.427.5731

CLEVELAND OFFICE

1375 East Ninth Street
One Cleveland Center + 29th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114

216.696.8700

KJK.com