



Ray H. Littleton

Vice President, Southfield

Southfield, MI

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Overview

Ray Littleton's practice area consists of commercial and general litigation. He works with insurers, businesses and other organizations address a wide range of litigation matters and disputes, specializing in five key areas:

Insurance. Part of Ray's practice deals with insurance defense matters that require him to conduct lead counsel duties in litigation. He specializes in handling claims related to bodily injury, property damage, theft, fraud, SIU matters, Michigan No-Fault litigation, Uninsured Motorist Benefits and Underinsured Motorist Benefits litigation. He also has extensive experience in handling insurance coverage issues and claim investigations.

Health Care. Ray has represented state-funded health care plans and providers who receive MI Choice Medicaid Waiver benefits. He assists companies in drafting and complying with Business Associate agreements and insurance provider agreements. He has litigated and defended claims for benefit payments and pursued claims for reimbursement related to health care plans.

Transportation. Ray represents medical and non-medical transportation companies with respect to business associate agreements, insurance coverage matters, and negotiations with transportation carriers and medical providers. He has also handled litigation matters for railroad clients including preparing trial briefings, jury instructions, witness testimony, and pre and post-trial motions in a railroad crossing accident case and in a railroad FELA cumulative trauma trial.

Warranty claims. Ray has represented businesses, particularly automotive suppliers, in connection with warranty claims and disputes under Article II of the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC).

Additionally, he has extensive experience handling other automotive supplier litigation matters involving machining and molding issues, molding liens, supply agreements and duration, price, quantity and termination provisions.

Practices

No-Fault Litigation

Health Care

Transportation Law

Employment Litigation

Mass Tort

Name Image Likeness (NIL) Legal Services Team

Sports Law

Education

Marquette University Law School, J.D., (2006)

Yale University, B.A., Economics, (2002)

Bar & Court Admissions

Michigan

Wisconsin

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin

U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Michigan

Employment disputes, discrimination and retaliation. Ray has handled employment defense matters for businesses regarding employment discrimination and retaliation claims, Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) advice, and advise regarding the enforcement of non-compete agreements.

Ray has litigated in the Circuit Courts of Michigan and Wisconsin and has argued in front of the Michigan Court of Appeals and the Federal District Courts in Michigan as well as the Federal District Courts in Wisconsin. He has also handled Circuit Court Trials and Administrative Trials, including the defense of an employer in a MIOSHA Trial.

He is a graduate of Yale University and earned his law degree from Marquette University Law School. In (2013), (2014), (2015), (2016), (2017), (2018) and (2019), *Michigan Super Lawyers* awarded Ray its "Rising Star" honor. Michigan Lawyers Weekly awarded Ray its "Leader in the Law" honor in (2024).

Ray is very involved in firm management. He currently sits on the firm's Executive Committee, is the Vice President of the Southfield office, and is the chair for the firm's Diversity Committee. Ray is currently a Board member of the State Bar Association and the Detroit Bar Association.

Ray previously served as the chair of the Rules and Calendar Committee on the State Bar of Michigan Representative Assembly and served as a representative on the Assembly for Oakland County.

Experience

- Provided Bodily Injury Trial defense in Premise Liability matters and Third-Party automotive litigation matters.
- Successfully defended MI Choice Medicaid Waiver program administrator in litigation involving benefit payments.
- Successfully obtained reimbursement for MI Choice Medicaid Waiver program benefits in litigation.
- Drafted and negotiated Business Associate Agreements for health care providers and health care plans.
- Successfully defended an automotive machining company in a business tort dispute.
- Effectively defended insurers against fraudulent property and theft claims.
- Successfully defended automotive insurer against breach of contract action for a vehicle theft claim.
- Successfully defended outdoor Kiosk vendor in warranty dispute.
- Litigated fraudulent conveyance claim in a non-dischargeability against a chapter 7 debtor.
- Successfully defended out of state automotive finance company against Fair Debt Collection Practices Act claim.
- Enforced a non-compete agreement in the home and health hospice industry.
- Handled first chair trial counsel responsibilities against claims involving trust contests and commission fee disputes.
- Handled first chair trial counsel responsibilities in an OSHA administrative trial.
- Regularly represents insurers in coverage disputes and claims investigations.
- Assisted receiver in operation and sale of gas station and automotive body shop as well as other assets.
- Handled 2nd and 3rd chair trial responsibilities in a transportation and trucking arbitration dispute and a personal injury mediation involving governmental immunity.

Honors & Recognition

Michigan Lawyers Weekly, "Leader in the Law", (2024)

Michigan *Super Lawyers* "Rising Star", General Litigation, (2013-2019)

Memberships & Affiliations

Legal Affiliations:

- State Bar of Michigan
 - Representative Assembly Member
 - Rules and Calendar Chairman for the Representative Assembly
- Detroit Bar Association
 - Fellow
 - Board Member, Director
- State Bar of Wisconsin
 - Member
- Federal Bar Association
 - Member
- Michigan State Bar Foundation
 - Fellow
- Oakland County Bar Foundation
 - Fellow

Industry & Professional Associations:

- ICLE Litigation Planning Committee
 - Member
- Wolverine Bar Association
 - Member
- Michigan Yale Alumni Association
- Yale Football Alumni Association
- Floyd Skinner Bar Association
 - Former Board Member

News & Resources

Publications

August 1, 2024 | Labor & Employment Law News

DEI Program Recommendations in Wake of Court Decision

January 22, 2024 | Insurance Regulatory News E-blast

Michigan Court of Appeals Ruling Adds Challenges for Premises Owners and Their Insurers as to Premises Liability Cases

December 20, 2023 | Foster Swift Labor & Employment Law News E-blast

As Attacks on DEI Programs Continue, Employers Should Review and Revise Diversity Initiatives

October 16, 2023 | Foster Swift Labor & Employment Law News E-blast

Legal Review of Corporate DEI Critical as Activists Quickly Pursue Litigation

July 29, 2020 | Foster Swift Health Care Law News E-blast

HIPAA Business Associate Agreements - What Are They and When Are They Required?

March 20, 2013 | Foster Swift Automotive Management News

The Seller Breached the Contract but the Purchaser Saved Money as a Result

February 2013 | Foster Swift Automotive Management News

Hiring and Firing Employees in an At-Will Employment World

March 6, 2012 | Foster Swift Commercial Litigation News

Priority of Construction Liens

Events

September 18, 2024

2024 Virtual Labor & Employment Law Update

November 8, 2023

How Recent Ruling Will Impact Your Business Initiatives

August 17, 2023

The Evolution and Transformation of Black Entrepreneurship

January 4, 2023

Independent Medical Exams: Strategies for Imposing or Preventing Conditions and Limitations

October 18, 2022

Transforming Law Firms: DE&I Intent Into Real Progress

January 4, 2022

Independent Medical Exams: Strategies for Imposing or Preventing Conditions and Limitations

March 30, 2021

Diversity: From Adversity to Unity

News

February 17, 2026 | Ingham County Legal News

Foster Swift Elects EC Officers for 2026

February 4, 2025

Foster Swift Elects Officers for 2025

November 5, 2024 | Michigan Lawyers Weekly

Littleton Named to 2024 Class of "Leaders in the Law"

May 29, 2024 | Detroit Regional Chamber

Littleton Elected to the Detroit Bar Association Board

June 30, 2022 | Click on Detroit

Pontiac golf event raises money in name of Pistons pick Jaden Ivey's grandfather

February 15, 2022

Littleton Elected James E. Hunter Association President

October 12, 2020

Littleton Recognized as Michigan Bar Foundation Fellow

September 3, 2020 | Michigan Business Network

Civil Lawsuits In The Wake Of COVID-19

August 26, 2020 | Michigan Business Network

Fadly and Littleton Named Michigan Bar Fellows

Blog Posts

August 1, 2024 | Michigan Labor & Employment Law Blog

Recommendations for DEI Programs in the Wake of Recent Federal Court Decision Findings on Diversity Initiatives