



## Kenn Brotman

### Counsel

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## OVERVIEW

Kenn Brotman is resident in the Chicago office and focuses his practice on product liability, premises liability, general tort liability, toxic tort and complex commercial litigation, including breach of warranty, breach of contract and breach of fiduciary duty matters. He is a member of the firm's biometric data compliance and defense affinity group and has advised clients with respect to litigation and compliance under the Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act. He practices in state and federal courts throughout the country, as well as arbitration proceedings, with significant experience and a particular focus on the nuances and complexities of state courts and procedures in Illinois. He has broad experience in all aspects of discovery, mediation, settlement negotiations, pretrial and trial.

Kenn represents clients in a variety of fields and industries, including recreational product manufacturers, family entertainment centers, pharmaceuticals, marine engines, boats, asbestos, big-box retailers, trucking, and film producers. Kenn has also assisted the firm's Cyber Civil Rights Legal Project representing victims of cyber-bullying and cyber-exploitation.

He also has experience as national litigation coordination counsel for manufacturers and retailers and is responsible for managing, overseeing, formulating and implementing consistent defense strategies for similar litigation filed throughout the United States.

## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Since March 2008, Kenn has been a Hearing Board Panel Chair for the Illinois Attorney Registration & Disciplinary Commission. In this capacity he presides as Panel Chair during hearings, rules on evidentiary objections and considers evidence and testimony submitted. Following the hearing, the Panel Chair leads deliberations with panel members, adjudicates ethical rule violation complaints and allegations asserted by the ARDC Administrator against attorneys, and reports findings and recommends sanctions to the Illinois Supreme Court as appropriate.

In March 2016, the ARDC also appointed him as Assistant Chair of the Hearing Board. The Assistant Chair of the Hearing Board is responsible for working with and advising the Director of Adjudication Services and the Chair to ensure the Hearing Board efficiently and fairly fulfills the directives of the Commission and the Supreme Court.

Kenn has completed the 40-hour performance based mediation skills training and was certified by the Chicago Center for Conflict Resolution.

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- “Daubert/Frye Motions in Construction Litigation: Navigating Standards for Expert Witnesses in Design and Defect Claims,” Strafford webinar, December 2017 (Presenter)
- “The Ethical Limits of Advocacy,” 2017 National Employment Lawyers Association's Seventh Circuit Conference, Chicago, IL February 2017 (co-presenter)

## EDUCATION

- J.D., Northern Illinois University College of Law, 1995 (*cum laude*)
- B.S., University of Miami, 1992

## ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Florida
- Bar of Illinois
- United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 24 March 2020, COVID-19: Illinois Executive Order in Response to COVID-19 (*Alerts/Updates*)
- 25 March 2019, The Biometric Bandwagon Rolls On: Biometric Legislation Proposed Across the United States (*Alerts/Updates*)
- 25 January 2019, “No Harm, Still Foul”: Actual Harm Not Required for Plaintiffs Under Illinois Biometric Privacy Act (*Alerts/Updates*)
- 12 June 2018, BIPA Trending: Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act Litigation Once Again On the Rise (*Alerts/Updates*)
- 2 March 2018, Spokeo Fails Facebook: Privacy Violation Held to Constitute Concrete Harm Under Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act (*Alerts/Updates*)

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- “Lithium-Ion Battery Failures: Suggestions For Product Manufacturers to Mitigate Liability Risk,” *Bloomberg BNA Product Safety & Liability Reporter*, 6 March 2017

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Product Liability
- Biometric Data Compliance and Defense
- Complex Commercial Litigation and Disputes
- Mass Tort