

Edward B. Magarian

Partner

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Minneapolis – 612.340.7873



Ed Magarian represents clients in high-stakes matters not only in courts and arbitration tribunals throughout the United States, but by conducting corporate investigations in response to regulatory concerns, active government investigations or other issues which could adversely impact the client's brand.

When the government comes knocking, a bet-the-company lawsuit lands, or a client finds itself in a dispute over restrictive covenants and trade secrets, clients across many industries, including securities, banking, insurance, health care, and franchising turn to Ed Magarian, a Minneapolis-based trial attorney whose national practice spans complex civil litigation brought by (or against) private parties and the government, internal investigations, and criminal and regulatory defense. He investigates and, where necessary, defends allegations of criminal and regulatory violations; prosecutes and defends claims involving theft of trade secrets, misappropriation of assets, and corporate raiding; and represents clients before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), the American Arbitration Association (AAA), and other venues.

On the civil litigation side, Ed litigates class actions, trade secret and noncompete disputes, franchise agreement claims, and employment matters including discrimination, harassment, and whistleblower retaliation. He represents clients who have been the victim of misappropriation of trade secrets, as well as those who have been accused of misappropriating trade secrets, and also has an active FINRA Arbitration practices. He has secured dismissals of putative nationwide class actions, defeated motions for class certification, obtained injunctive relief in broker-raiding and confidential-information cases, and obtain damage awards and successfully defended against damage claims in court and before FINRA arbitrators, by way of award or settlement. Ed has successfully tried dozens of cases to verdict (or directed verdict) or final award.

Ed's government investigations and white-collar defense work covers a wide range of regulatory and enforcement contexts, including banking, environmental, securities, fraud,

Education

- Georgetown University Law Center (J.D., 1989)
 - *magna cum laude*
 - Order of the Coif
 - Senior Editor, 1988-1989, Member, 1987-1989, Georgetown Law Journal
- Georgetown University (B.A., Government, 1986)
 - *magna cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- Minnesota

health care, political bribery, and antitrust matters. He represents clients in connection with investigations by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), FINRA, and state regulators, and advises management, boards, and audit committees on internal investigations involving allegations of fraud, Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) violations, mortgage fraud, securities fraud, and health care fraud. He also defends clients facing whistleblower and qui tam claims under the False Claims Act.

Chambers USA recognizes Ed in Litigation: White-Collar Crime and Government Investigations in Minnesota. He has also been recognized by *Minnesota Super Lawyers*® since 2011.

Prior to joining Dorsey, Ed clerked for Judge Francis J. Magill at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

Select Experience

- Secured order denying plaintiffs' motion for class certification and dismissal of a putative class action brought by individuals seeking to represent a nationwide class of thousands of financial advisors and franchisees.
- Conducted internal investigations for management, boards, and audit committees involving allegations of fraud, accounting issues, and violations of law, including matters related to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), mortgage fraud, securities fraud, and health care fraud.
- Secured dismissal of multiple multimillion-dollar claims by a FINRA panel after trial on disputes involving compliance violations and alleged breach of franchise agreement in Florida, California, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts.
- Represented clients in litigation regarding confidential information and trade secrets, nonsolicitation and noncompete provisions, Broker Protocol, and employee raiding.

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
- Federal District Court for the District of Minnesota
- Federal District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin
- Federal District Court for the Western District of Michigan

Accolades

- *Chambers USA*, Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations, Minnesota, 2019-2026
- *Minnesota Super Lawyers*®, 2011-2026
- *Minnesota Monthly*, "Top Lawyers in Minnesota," 2024, 2026
- *Thomson Reuters*, "Stand-Out Lawyers," 2024-2025
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, 2011-2025
- *Minnesota Lawyer*, "The POWER 30: Business Litigation", 2021-2022
- *Minnesota Lawyer*, Best Lawyers
- MSBA, North Star Lawyer
- *Attorney at Law Magazine*, "Attorney of the Month", April 2013

- Dorsey & Whitney – Scales of Justice Award, 2001, 2004
- *The Business Journal*, "Top 40 professionals under the age of 40", 2003
- *Minnesota Justice Foundation*, "Distinguished Service Award", 2002

Clerkships

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, Honorable Francis J. Magill, 1989–1990

Professional Affiliations

- Chair of Dorsey & Whitney's Policy Committee (Board of Directors), June 2021 to present; Member of Dorsey & Whitney's Policy committee, June 2015 to June 2023
- Georgetown University Law Center, Law Alumni Board of Trustees, 2012 – 2017
- Board of Directors, The Innocence Project of Minnesota, 2001-September 2019 (Chair, 2003 – 2005; Co-Chair 2008 – 2010)
 - Secured the release of Sherman Townsend after serving 10 years of a 20 year sentence for a burglary he did not commit, Minnesota, 2007
 - Secured release and exoneration of Koua Fong Lee after serving several years for vehicular manslaughter resulting from an accident involving his Toyota vehicle
 - Secured the release and exoneration of Michael Hansen after his wrongful conviction for the murder of his daughter (who died of SIDS)
 - Successfully promoted new form of eyewitness identification now used by two of Minnesota's largest counties
- Board of Directors, Humboldt Lofts Association, President (2022 to 2025); Vice President (2021 to 2022); At Large Director (2018 – 2019)
- Selected to serve on Reappointment Committee for Magistrate Judge Cowan Wright, District of Minnesota (2026)
- Jury Instruction Committee (Minnesota), 2004 – 2005
- Elected as a delegate to the State DFL Convention, 2006; elected as a delegate to the State DFL Convention 2008; served on nominations committee, 2008; elected as delegate to the State DFL Convention 2010; elected Director, Senate District 63, 2008 – 2012; elected delegate to Senate District Convention, 2018
- Georgetown University, Alumni Interviewer, Admissions Committee, 2003 – 2017
- Board of Directors, Prevention Alliance, 2001 – 2003
- Founding member, International Anti-Fraud Network
- Legal Teaching
 - Hamline Law School Adjunct Law Professor, Wrongful Convictions: Innocence Project of Minnesota, 2002 – 2003
 - Adjunct Faculty-St. Thomas, 1995 (health care fraud); students obtaining MBA in medical group management

Select Presentations

- Trade Secret Misappropriation: Strategies for Corporate Victims and Those Accused, October 22, 2024
- Litigation: The Pandemic's Next Wave, Panel Presentation and Moderator, May 1, 2020
- Where Have You Gone, Miranda? Trends, Predictions and Best Practices
- "Creating and Implementing a Winning Arbitration Strategy," Corporate Counsel Symposium

- False Claims Act: "Avoiding the Inferno: Making Import and Export Issues Predictable in the Year of the Dragon"
- Current Issues in White Collar Litigation, 2008 (co-sponsored by The Federal Bar Association in Washington State)
- Business Litigation in the High Tech Age, MILE
- Investigations, Corporate Counsel Symposium
- "Trial Advocacy," Minnesota State Bar Association
- What Every Company Should Know When Government Agents Arrive With a Search Warrant or When a Grand Jury Seeks Information by Subpoena
- "Documents in Large Cases," MILE
- Punitive Damages in Minnesota, "Instructing the Jury on Punitive Damages in Minnesota After State Farm Mutual Automotive Insurance Company v. Campbell," MTLA
- "Parallel Proceedings," Corporate Counsel Symposium
- "What Every Company Should Know When Government Agents Arrive With a Search Warrant or When a Grand Jury Searches Information by Subpoena" (Seattle and Minneapolis)
- Joint Defense Agreements: Potential Traps from the Unwary
- "Bringing Down the House: How the Whistleblower Does It," Corporate Counsel Symposium
- "Clarence Darrow: Crimes, Causes, and the Courtroom," All District Legal Education
- The Anatomy of a White Collar Crime Investigation
- "Employee Theft and Shoplifting"
- "Employee Fraud and Theft: Et Tu Brute?" AGC of Minnesota

Insights

June 23, 2021

Dorsey & Whitney names Ed Magarian new board chair

June 16, 2021

Supreme Court in *Van Buren* Narrows Scope of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act

July 3, 2018

He served decades in prison for Minneapolis serial killings. DNA blames someone else.

March 21, 2018

Dorsey Partner Ed Magarian Fight for Dismiss Appeal in Glaze Case

December 11, 2017

Dorsey Partner Ed Magarian Argues Glaze Case Deserves Review

October 20, 2017

Certiorari Grant This Week on Email Providers Served with Warrant for Emails

March 3, 2017

Dorsey Partner Ed Magarian Comments on Former Starkey Executive Felony Charge