

## Education

- Syracuse University College of Law, JD
- Boston College, BA

## Practices & Industries

- Commercial Litigation
- Restructuring, Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights

## Admitted to Practice

- Connecticut
- Massachusetts
- New York

## Court Admissions

- US District Court for the District of Connecticut

## Biography

Brian regularly represents some of the world's largest banks and financial institutions as well as local and regional clients. He handles a variety of business and commercial disputes, including contract claims, real estate litigation, contested commercial and residential foreclosure actions, mortgage resolution, unfair business practices actions, and fraud and lender liability claims.

He has tried dozens of bench and jury trials to conclusion in both state and federal courts. Brian also regularly appears in the Connecticut Appellate Court, Connecticut Supreme Court, and United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit as well as in arbitration and mediation proceedings.

## Bar Associations

- Connecticut Bar Association

## Selected Memberships & Affiliations

- Thomson Reuters Practical Law, Contributor

## Representative Experience

- Successfully obtained a defense verdict in favor of a bank client in Stamford Superior Court. The jury ultimately rejected the plaintiff's claim for damages related to purported breaches of settlement agreement and found a substantial offset in favor of the bank.
- Successfully secured summary judgment in favor of a bank client before the Connecticut Appellate Court in the foreclosure of a commercial mortgage note in the original principal amount of \$3 million. The real property securing the note and mortgage comprises an indoor sports facility of

significant economic and social interest to the surrounding community.

- Managed a matter related to a pending state foreclosure case for an international financial services firm in which a borrower appealed a district court order sua sponte ordering remand of federal litigation to state court to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.
- Obtained summary judgment in a case where the plaintiff sued JP Morgan Chase Bank for violations of the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act (CUTPA) relating to attempts to collect on a home equity line of credit account. After extensive litigation, including depositions across the country and a multimillion-dollar demand, the district court dismissed the plaintiff's slander of title count and granted the bank's summary judgment motion.
- Successfully received the Second Circuit's affirmation of the federal district court's ruling, dismissing the petition in a state foreclosure action with a complex and detailed procedural history involving multiple bankruptcy filings, state court appeals, and federal removal actions.
- Successfully argued the appeal of a trial court ruling ordering the payment of property tax and insurance payments from the borrowers during the pendency of the appeal of a foreclosure action before the Connecticut Appellate Court.
- Successfully obtained a defense verdict in an action arising out of the alleged rendering of preservation services to a premises in delinquency.
- Handled a matter in trial court regarding a judgment of foreclosure by sale secured on behalf of the plaintiff. The judgment of foreclosure was affirmed by the Connecticut Appellate Court on appeal.

## Prior Experience

- Halloran & Sage LLP, Partner

## Selected Community Activities

- Mercy Shelter and Housing, Former Trustee and Board Chair

## Selected Honors

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®: Banking and Finance Law, 2024; Commercial Litigation, 2022–2024; Litigation – Securities, 2023–2024; Mortgage Banking Foreclosure Law, 2023–2024
- Selected to *Super Lawyers* Connecticut Rising Stars: Business Litigation, 2014–2018
- *Hartford Business Journal*, 40 Under 40, 2014
- *Connecticut Law Tribune*, New Leaders in the Law, 2013

## Selected Speaking Engagements

- Connecticut Bankers Association, “A Primer to Connecticut Banking Foreclosure and Bankruptcy Litigation and the Effects of COVID-19” Webinar
- Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board, “Creative Defense Strategies: The Best Defense Is a Good Offense” CLE
- New England Mortgage Expo, “Financial Institution and Lender Liability Litigation in the Face of the Foreclosure Epidemic; Should We Bank on a Better 2015?”
- Connecticut Mortgage Bankers Association, “Mortgage Fraud: Common Schemes and Potential Red Flags” Seminar
- New England Mortgage Expo, “Banking Litigation: One Step Forward, Two Steps Back”

## Selected Media

- *Credit Union Times*, “Safeguarding Credit Unions Amid Litigious Seas”
- Law360, “Mass. Bill May Alter Deals Involving Both Goods and Services”
- Law360, “Conn. Banking Brief: The Notable Compliance Updates in Q3”
- *ABA Banking Journal*, “Avoiding Potential Litigation Issues and Defending Banks in an Age of Increased Scrutiny”
- *Scotsman Guide Residential Edition*, “Flexing Its Might: Get Ready for the CFPB to Play an Even Larger Role in Housing Finance”

## Selected Alerts & Blog Posts

- It's Not Over Yet. Turning Your Judgments Into Dollars.
- Ex Parte Prejudgment Attachment: Connecticut's Secret Sauce

- The Idiosyncrasies of Connecticut's Mortgage Foreclosure Process
- Changes to Connecticut Receivership Law Will Likely Have Significant Impact