

Michael J. Lichtenstein

Shareholder

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Michael Lichtenstein is a seasoned litigator who is recognized for his excellence in *Best Lawyers in America*, *Best Lawyers in Washington, DC*, *Maryland and DC Super Lawyers*, the *Washingtonian*, *Smart CEO* and in *Chambers and Partners*, which notes his “quality” as both a lawyer and mediator. Michael has delivered successful outcomes for financial institutions, creditors’ committees, creditors, property owners, debtors and equity holder clients in Chapter 11 proceedings in a dozen states, including Maryland, DC, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Tennessee, California and New York. He has helped clients in a wide range of industries, including telecommunications, defense, real estate, technology and retail chains, in matters ranging from \$5 million to \$400 million.

Debtor and creditor clients in or facing Chapter 11 proceedings have found Michael’s background as a corporate board member and his business focus a tremendous asset in successfully navigating the process. Michael represents clients from a variety of industries in the purchase or sale of assets in bankruptcy proceedings. He also provides expert witness and mediator services in Chapter 11 matters.



Bar & Court Admissions

District of Columbia

Maryland

U.S. Court of Appeals, 4th Circuit

Education

American University,
Washington College of
Law, J.D., 1988, Law
Review

University of Pennsylvania,
Ph.D. in Criminology, 1982

University of Pennsylvania,
M.A. in Criminology, 1980

Brandeis University, B.A.,
1979; Member of the
Brandeis University
Athletic Hall of Fame;
Four-year starter on
varsity soccer team,
Division III National
Champions

Israel Defense Force,
Former Tank Officer

“Michael is smart and clever. Best bankruptcy counsel I’ve worked with.”

— Jan Williams, 1st Senior Executive Vice President, Eagle Bank

In addition to representing companies and financial institutions in [bankruptcy and restructuring](#), Michael delivers successful outcomes in [commercial litigation](#) matters involving business disputes, contracts, securities, telecommunications, construction, commercial real estate and intellectual property matters. He litigates in state and federal courts across the country and has argued several times before the United States Courts of Appeals for the [Fourth Circuit](#) and [Third Circuit](#).

Michael leads the Shulman Rogers [Bankruptcy, Restructuring and Creditors’ Rights Group](#) and has previously served on both the firm’s Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Prior to joining Shulman Rogers, he was a litigation and bankruptcy partner at Swidler Berlin, L.P. in Washington, DC. He has earned an AV Preeminent rating from [Martindale-Hubbell](#), a recognition of excellence from both his fellow attorneys and the judiciary.

Results

- Represented the debtor and successfully confirmed a plan of reorganization for SAVI Technology, Inc. in a Chapter 11 in the Eastern District of Virginia. The majority of the secured creditors forfeited a portion of their claim to obtain equity in the reorganized debtor.
- Successfully confirmed a plan of reorganization for PMI parking in one of the first cases under Subchapter 5 of Chapter 11

in the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland.

- Successfully represented Redox Power Systems, LLC, a solid oxide fuel cell company, in its Chapter 11 proceeding. After four months of intense litigation and a four day contested confirmation hearing, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland confirmed Redox's plan of reorganization in a 32-page opinion.
- Settled state court breach of contract and breach of fiduciary duty limited liability litigation that resulted in multi-million dollar payment to clients.
- Obtained order converting Chapter 11 to Chapter 7 proceeding in case involving solar energy and cryptocurrency.
- Won an appeal in the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit affirming the lower court's decision that lending institution client had a first lien priority on the borrower's assets on account of a \$3.2 million loan and allowing the bank to collect \$1.2 million being held in the court registry.
- Successfully settled a \$6 million suit filed for plaintiff in Montgomery County Circuit Court in Maryland through the use of mediation that resulted in monthly payments to client.
- Appointed by a Maryland Bankruptcy judge as a mediator in a large Chapter 11 proceeding with a trustee who sued several defendants over significant multi-million dollar disputes about lien priorities and entitlement to sales proceeds.
- Successfully defeated motion to dismiss lawsuit in federal court in Greenbelt, Maryland in suit against insurance company for coverage related to fraudulently issued \$1 million letter of credit.

- Won Board of Immigration Appeals' affirmance of immigration judge's grant of asylum for pro bono client from Guinea who fled the country because of religious persecution. The BIA affirmed the immigration judge and then denied DHS' subsequent motion for reconsideration.
 - Successful representation of pro bono client from Burundi seeking asylum before the Board of Immigration Appeals.
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Recognition

- The Best Lawyers in America, 2014-2025
 - Maryland Super Lawyers, 2015-2021, 2023, 2024
 - American Bar Foundation, Life Fellow
 - Chambers and Partners, Bankruptcy/Restructuring – Maryland, 2018-2023
 - Washingtonian Lifetime Achievement Award, 2022
 - Washingtonian Magazine, Top Lawyers, 2022
 - District of Columbia Super Lawyers, Business Litigation, 2014-2021
 - Top Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Attorney, Bethesda Magazine, 2019
 - Washingtonian Magazine, Top Bankruptcy Lawyers, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2018
 - Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent Rating
 - Governor's Volunteer Service Certificate, 2014
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