SHULMAN ROGERS

Michael J. Lichtenstein

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Shareholder Emeritus

Michael Lichtenstein is a highly regarded litigator whose career was marked by national recognition for excellence, including honors from Best Lawyers in America, Best Lawyers in Washington, DC, Maryland, and DC Super Lawyers, Washingtonian, Smart CEO, and Chambers and Partners, which noted his "quality" as both a lawyer and mediator.

Over the course of his career, Michael delivered successful outcomes for financial institutions, creditors' committees, creditors, property owners, debtors and equity holders in Chapter 11 proceedings across more than a dozen states, including Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Tennessee, California and New York. He advised clients across a wide range of industries, including telecommunications, defense, real estate, technology and retail, in matters ranging from $5 million to $400 million.

Clients in or facing Chapter 11 proceedings benefited from Michael's business-focused approach and his experience as a corporate board member, which informed his strategic guidance throughout the restructuring process. His practice included representing buyers and sellers in asset transactions arising out of bankruptcy proceedings, as well as serving as an expert witness and mediator in complex 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

In addition to his restructuring work, Michael represented companies and financial institutions in a broad array of commercial litigation matters involving business disputes, contracts, securities, telecommunications, construction, commercial real estate and intellectual property. He litigated in state and federal courts nationwide and argued multiple times before the United States Courts of Appeals for the Fourth and Third Circuits.

Michael led Shulman Rogers' Bankruptcy, Restructuring and Creditors' Rights Group and previously served on 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 earned an AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell, reflecting peer and judicial recognition for the highest level of professional excellence.

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.

Recognition

- Maryland Super Lawyers, 2010-2027
- The Best Lawyers in America®, 2014-2026
- Washingtonian Magazine, Top Lawyers, 2022-2024
- American Bar Foundation, Life Fellow
- Chambers and Partners, Bankruptcy/Restructuring – Maryland, 2018-2023
- Washingtonian Lifetime Achievement Award, 2022
- Washington D.C. Super Lawyers, 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