

## Jeff M. Smith

PARTNER

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Jeff is a Partner in Shumaker's Litigation & Disputes Service Line, where he brings extensive trial, appellate, and dispositive motion experience to a broad range of complex civil litigation matters. Known for his strategic advocacy and practical approach to dispute resolution, Jeff represents clients across numerous industries, including:

- Health care
- Banking
- Construction
- Food manufacturing
- Real estate
- Agribusiness

Jeff has successfully defended clients in high-stakes trials and appeals. Notably, he secured a jury verdict in favor of a physician facing claims of fraud and professional malpractice and has tried multiple medical malpractice cases in state court. Jeff also has extensive appellate experience, including recently defending a Fortune 500 company in a premises liability matter, where the trial court's summary judgment ruling was affirmed by the Ohio Sixth District Court of Appeals.

Jeff prides himself on his legal writing ability, which helps him achieve favorable outcomes through dispositive motion practice, including a series of successful motions to dismiss lawsuits against

### SERVICE LINE

Data Breach Response Team  
Litigation & Disputes  
Technology, Data Privacy,  
Cybersecurity & AI

### INDUSTRY SECTOR

Financial Institutions &  
Insurance  
Health Care  
Manufacturing  
Technology

### PRIMARY LOCATION

Toledo, OH

a regional farm cooperative. In those cases, judges in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio upheld the enforceability of the co-op's grain contracts under the Commodities Exchange Act.

In addition to his work with health care professionals and agribusinesses, Jeff regularly defends financial institutions in complex litigation involving:

- Breach of fiduciary duty
- Trustee responsibilities related to mortgage-backed securities
- Claims involving data security and trade secrets

Earlier in his career, Jeff served as a law clerk to the Honorable Sara Lioi, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio—an experience that continues to inform his litigation strategy and courtroom advocacy.

Jeff's depth of experience and results-driven mindset make him a trusted advocate for clients navigating challenging legal disputes.

## BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

Ohio

United States District Court, Northern District, Ohio

United States District Court, Eastern District, Michigan

## PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- Wood County Bar Association, Vice President
- 1859 Mutual, Board of Directors
- U.S. District Court Northern District of Ohio Advisory Group Member

## EDUCATION

J.D., *magna cum laude*, Order of the Coif, University of Michigan Law School

M.B.A., University of Findlay

B.S., *magna cum laude*, Bowling Green State University