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**Michael Schaalman**

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Michael Schaalman joined Gass Turek on September 1, 2021, after a long career trying business and securities cases at a national firm, Quarles & Brady (1977-2014), and a local Milwaukee firm, Halling & Cayo (2014-2021.) Mr. Schaalman was a partner at both firms and lead the securities litigation practice at Quarles & Brady. He has tried jury cases and bench trials in several states, including California, New York, Indiana and Wisconsin. He represents a diverse client base including a Fortune 100 manufacturing/technology firm, regional broker dealers and brokers, hedge funds, and victims of securities fraud.

Michael has substantial experience solving problems in commercial product disputes, defamation claims, trade secret matters and securities claims alleging fraud, selling away and unsuitability.

Michael graduated from Grinnell College in 1970 with a B.A. in History and received his Juris Doctor degree from Northwestern University School of Law (now Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law) in 1974. He was a fellow in the Program in Law and the Social Sciences and received an M.A. in American Legal History in 1975. He was a member of the editorial board of the Northwestern Law Review. Following graduation from Northwestern, Michael served as a law clerk to the Honorable Thomas E. Fairchild, Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

## **Representative Experience**

### **Trial**

- Lead counsel for plaintiffs in a multi-week bench securities fraud trial in the Eastern District of New York which resulted in a \$21 million verdict for plaintiffs. Verdict was sustained on appeal to the Second Circuit.
- Lead counsel for plaintiff Fortune 100 technology firm in a multi-week jury trial in the Northern District of California seeking to recover damages from negligent use of TCE/TCA by tenant which resulted in a \$9.1 million verdict for plaintiff. Verdict was sustained by the Ninth Circuit.
- Lead counsel for defendant technology firm in a multi week jury trial in the Northern District of Indiana in which the plaintiff was claiming \$3 million in damages from defective switches installed in hospital beds. The jury returned a verdict for the defense.
- Lead counsel for plaintiff in a multi week jury trial in Sheboygan County Circuit Court (Wisconsin) in which the plaintiff alleged defamation by a competitor log home manufacturer. The jury returned a verdict of \$125,000 for the plaintiff.
- Lead counsel for defendant agricultural co-op in a weeklong jury trial in Buffalo County Circuit Court (Wisconsin) in which plaintiffs were alleging a breach of contract and fraud. The jury returned a verdict for the defense.
- Lead counsel for defendant technology firm in a weeklong bench trial in Franklin County Circuit Court (Ohio) in which plaintiff customer alleged product defect water valves. Judge returned a verdict for the defense. The verdict was sustained by the Ohio Court of Appeals.

### **Arbitrations**

- Lead counsel for plaintiffs in a weeklong FINRA arbitration alleging fraud by broker-dealer in recommending an investment. Panel awarded plaintiffs \$1.2 million.
- Lead counsel for plaintiff trustee in a weeklong FINRA arbitration seeking an injunction against broker dealer to preserve trust assets. Panel granted injunctive relief.
- Lead counsel for defendant regional broker-dealer in a weeklong FINRA arbitration in which investor sought damages for misrepresentations. Panel returned an award for the defendant broker dealer.

Appellate

- Lead counsel making oral argument in cases in the Third, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth U.S. Courts of Appeals.
- Lead counsel making oral arguments in the Supreme Courts in of Wisconsin and Delaware.

Class Actions

- Lead counsel for plaintiffs hedge funds in a securities class action in the United States District court for Delaware alleging misrepresentations in connection with the failed merger in the poultry industry.

Pro Bono

Served as president, board member and campaign cabinet of civic organizations, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, United Way, PathFinders, and religious organizations, Milwaukee Jewish Federation, Hillel Foundation and Congregation Shir Hadash.