



Tel/Fax: 248.822.7802
seyferth@bsplaw.com



Related Services

Advanced Technologies
Business and Commercial
Class Actions
Product Liability
Securities / Finance

Education

University of Michigan Law
School, J.D., *cum laude*, 1992
Michigan State University, B.S.,
1987

Federal Clerkships

Judge Robert Cleland,
United States District Court for
the Eastern District of
Michigan, 1992-1994

Court Admissions

United States Court of Appeals
for the Sixth Circuit

United States District Court for
the Eastern District of Michigan



Patrick G. Seyferth *Founding Member*

Patrick Seyferth is an experienced civil trial attorney and one of the founding members of Bush Seyferth PLLC. He specializes in the defense of high exposure product liability cases, commercial litigation and class actions.

Patrick and BSP serve as National Coordinating and Trial Counsel for a major automotive manufacturer and are responsible for all aspects of discovery, fact investigation, expert selection, case preparation and serve as lead counsel in certain product liability matters. Patrick has lectured at numerous conferences and symposia across the country on trial advocacy issues, particularly in the areas of depositions, trial skills and social media.

Patrick has obtained successful results in significant litigation in 23 states. He has tried cases in Arizona, Tennessee, Michigan and New York.

Representative Matters

Product Liability

Patrick has significant trial experience and successes representing major manufacturers in cases involving a variety of product liability, toxic tort and personal injury litigation claims.

- 1st-chaired 2-week jury trial on behalf of an automotive manufacturer involving severe injury to a passenger in a SUV. (TN) : No Cause
- 1st-chaired 2-week jury trial on behalf of an automotive manufacturer involving severe injuries to driver of a pickup truck. (AZ) : No Cause
- 1st-chaired 2-week jury trial on behalf of an automotive manufacturer involving significant injury to passenger in a minivan. (AZ) : No Cause
- Assisted in highly publicized 3-week trial on behalf of an automotive manufacturer involving the death of 7-year-old child. (MI) : No Cause
- Assisted in 3-week trial on behalf of an automotive manufacturer involving the death of a child. (NY) : No Cause
- Obtained summary judgement on behalf of an automotive manufacturer in complex product liability case involving building fire in federal court. (MI)

Commercial / UCC

- Managed, organized, and defended a major automotive manufacturer in more than a dozen high-profile arbitrations that were executed during a three-month period of time.
- Represented client in an insurance coverage case, which involved not only contractual and statutory insurance issues, but also the impact of an old bankruptcy, res judicata, and collateral attack. Defeated the defendant's motion to dismiss, and the parties reached a favorable settlement.
- Obtained favorable settlement as lead counsel for an automotive OEM in a multi-million dollar breach of contract cost recovery matter.
- Secured a defense verdict in consumer-leasing action following a jury trial in Cuyahoga County, Ohio for a major automotive manufacturer on one claim for fraud and another for a violation of the Consumer Leasing Act.

Class Actions / Appeals

Patrick has extensive class-action experience in areas including consumer protection, environmental, toxic tort, product liability, and construction defect. Patrick provides clients with carefully crafted defense strategies aimed at obtaining early dismissals, denials of class certification, and favorable settlements in lawsuits filed nationwide.

- Defeated class certification, obtained a with-prejudice dismissal of the named plaintiffs' claims, and resulted in an award of over \$670,000 in fees and costs. (AZ) : Defeated Class Certification
- Defeated class certification in putative 50-state consumer protection and warranty action involving over 1 million vehicles, with potential damages exceeding \$1 billion dollars. The Sixth Circuit upheld the denial of class certification on appeal. (MI) : Defeated Class Certification
- Argued on behalf of an Amicus Curiae brief in the Michigan Supreme Court on behalf of a major automotive manufacturer on the issue of whether privity is required to maintain a claim for breach of implied warranty seeking economic damages under Michigan's Uniform Commercial Code.

United States District Court for
the Western District of
Michigan

Michigan Supreme Court

Michigan Court of Appeals

Patrick G. Seyferth *Founding Member (cont.)*

- Successfully argued in complex panel of Michigan Court of Appeals. (MI) : Affirmed.
- In a putative statewide class action in the Middle District of Florida, obtained published decision dismissing tort claims, dismissal of \$2 billion punitive damages claim, *Daubert* rulings striking liability and damages experts, and denial of class certification. (FL)

ADR / Special Master

In arbitrations, mediations, and facilitations, Patrick has positioned clients to achieve favorable settlement results in high exposure cases.

- Selected as an arbitrator in multi-million dollar commercial dispute concerning alleged violations of non-compete provision negotiated in connection with the sale of business. (MI)
- Managed, organized, and defended an automotive manufacture in more than a dozen high-profile arbitrations that were executed during a 3-month period of time. (MI)

Other

- Represented Plaintiff in a 2-week jury trial on behalf of plaintiff involving a near-drowning resulting in a \$500,000 verdict on behalf of the client. (MI) : Plaintiff's Verdict

Professional Activities

American Bar Association, *Member*

American Bar Foundation, *Fellow*

Defense Research Institute, *Member*

Federal Bar Association for the Eastern District of Michigan, *Member*

Federalist Society, *Member*

Leading Lawyers, *Member*, 2014 – present, *Advisory Board Member*, 2018

Michigan Defense Trial Counsel, *Member*

Oakland County Bar Association, *Member*

Oakland County Bar Foundation, *Fellow*

Product Liability Advisory Council, *Member*

Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference, *Life Member*

State Bar of Michigan, *Member*

U.S.D.C. Eastern District of Michigan – eFiling Committee, *Appointed Member*

Honors & Awards

Best Lawyers® Lawyer of the Year, *Product Liability Litigation – Defendants (Troy, MI)*, 2019

America's Top 100 Attorneys®, 2018

Inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America®, *Commercial Litigation and Product Liability Litigation – Defendants*, 2012 – present

U.S.D.C. Eastern District of Michigan, Certificate of Appreciation, Merit Selection Panel, 2011

Michigan Lawyer's Weekly, *Leader In The Law*, 2011

U.S. News Best Lawyers®, 2010-present

Michigan Super Lawyers, Top 100, 2011-2017

Michigan Super Lawyers, 2006-present

DBusiness Top Lawyers, 2008-2018

Martindale Hubbell® Peer Review Rating of AV

Presentations

Invited speaker throughout the U.S. regarding a variety of trial topics

- Product Liability Advisory Council (2009, 2011, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018)
- Network of Trial Law Firms (2018)
- Intelligent Transport Systems World Congress (2017)
- Defense Research Institute Strictly Automotive (2013, 2015, 2017)
- North American International Auto Show – AutoMobili-D (2017)



Patrick G. Seyferth *Founding Member (cont.)*

- University of Michigan UMTRI Program (November, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2016, 2017)
- Privacy + Security Forum (2016)
- International Association of Privacy Professionals Privacy. Security. Risk. (2016)
- Association of Corporate Counsel Michigan Chapter (2015, 2016)
- 72nd Judicial Conference of the Sixth Circuit (April, 2012)
- Crain's In-House Summit (April 2012)
- 71st Judicial Conference of the Sixth Circuit (June, 2011)
- Federal Bar Association (April, 2010)
- Featured speaker at Investiture Ceremony of Federal Judge Raymond Kethledge, Oath Administered by Justice Anthony Kennedy, University of Michigan (September, 2008)

Publications

- "Avoiding the Blind Spots: Evidentiary Issues, Exhibits, Experts, and Trial Strategies," *DRI For the Defense*, Published Winter 2018
- "Privacy, Cybersecurity, and the Connected Car," *DRI In-House Defense Quarterly*, Published Spring 2015
- "Lawsuits Involving Component Suppliers," *DRI In-House Defense Quarterly*, Published Spring 2012
- "Trial Strategies: Humanizing the Corporate Defendant," *DRI In-House Defense Quarterly*, Published Winter 2010

Community & Pro-Bono Involvement

Patrick leads the BSP Charities Annual Golf and Tennis Classic which, to date, has donated in excess of \$300,000 to charities throughout the metro-Detroit area. Patrick also serves on the Advisory Board for New Day Foundation for Families, a local non-profit that provides resources to families affected by cancer.

Patrick also leads the firm's pro-bono efforts and has gained positive results for individuals and families in need.

Personal

Before co-founding BSP in 2003, Patrick was an equity partner at Feeney Kellett Wiener & Bush. He served as a law clerk to U.S. District Court Judge Robert H. Cleland for two years after graduating from the University of Michigan Law School, *cum laude*, in 1992. He resides in Rochester, Michigan with his wife Sandi and their five children.