



JAMES ZAWODZINSKI JR.

Senior Associate

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James focuses his practice on complex litigation matters in both federal and state courts. His experience includes commercial contract and real estate disputes, Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) matters, proceedings involving both the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and New York Labor Law, and varying intellectual property matters including those related to patent and trademark litigation and the misappropriation of trade secrets and ideas.

When he's not litigating in the court room, James provides practical advice to clients. He negotiates and resolves "business divorces," acting as a creative problem solver to find economical and efficient outcomes in the division, sale, and transfer of assets for both privately and publicly held companies. James also represents large funders who provide merchant cash advances to merchants across the country, work which has contributed to New York case law surrounding such transactions.

James is a proud member of the firm's Diversity Committee and serves as the President of Homespace Corporation's Board of Directors.

Honors

- University at Buffalo School of Law's Private Practice Award, 2024
- *Buffalo Business First's* 30 Under Thirty Award, 2022
- Listed, *Upstate New York Super Lawyers* Rising Stars (Business Litigation) 2021 - 2023
- Editor-in-Chief, *Buffalo Journal on Gender, Law, and Social Policy*
- Buffalo Moot Court Board, Charles Desmond Competition Co-Chair and Award Recipient
- Hon. John T. Elfvin Alumni Scholar
- Order of the Barristers

The Guaranty Building
140 Pearl Street
Suite 100
Buffalo, NY 14202

Practices & Industries

Bankruptcy, Restructuring &
Commercial Litigation
Business Litigation
Intellectual Property Litigation
Wine, Beer & Spirits

Admissions

New York
Second Circuit Court of Appeals
U.S. District Court, Southern
District of New York
U.S. District Court, Western District
of New York
U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Southern
District of New York
U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Western
District of New York

Education

Canisius College, B.A., magna cum
laude
University of Buffalo School of Law,
J.D.

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- Harry A. Rachlin Award for Real Property Law & Real Estate Transactions

In the News

Thought Leaders: Inclusivity for LGBTQ+ should last beyond Pride Month
Buffalo Business First, June 24, 2022

Press Releases

55 Hodgson Russ LLP Attorneys Named to 2023 *Upstate New York Super Lawyers* List
August 23, 2023

Fifty-Nine Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2022 Edition of *Upstate New York Super Lawyers*
Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 23, 2022

Fifty-Four Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2021 Edition of *Upstate New York Super Lawyers*
Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 20, 2021

New Attorneys Join Hodgson Russ
Press Release, March 8, 2019

Publications

Supreme Court Resolves Split Among The Circuits: No Time Limits on Monetary Recovery for any Timely Copyright Infringement Claim
Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, May 15, 2024

The Battle After *Warhol*: Tattoos as Artwork or Infringement?
Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, April 24, 2024

AI Lawsuit May Eclipse Claims of Fair Use
Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, April 5, 2024

New York State Liquor Authority Moves to Tackle Backlog of Items
Hodgson Russ Wine, Beer & Spirits Practice, November 29, 2023

Music Copyrights on a Roll – Read and Listen to Hear the Latest
Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, October 6, 2023

Taco Bell Throws Its Hat in the Ring to Free “Taco Tuesday” from Trademark Protection
Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, May 30, 2023

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Federal Court Invalidates NYC's COVID-Era Guaranty Law, Opens Door For Commercial Landlords To Recoup Unpaid Rent From Personal Guarantors

Hodgson Russ Real Estate Alert, April 4, 2023

Copyright Claims of Cosmetic Company Continue to Trial

Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, March 23, 2023

Luxury Fashion Designer Earns Its Stripes In Trademark Victory Against adidas

Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, January 27, 2023

McDonald's Faces Class Action Lawsuit Over Sexual Harassment, Hostile Work Environment Accusations

Hodgson Russ Food & Beverage Alert, January 4, 2023

Presentations & Events

On Target with Penny Wolfgang

September 8, 2022

Canada Practice Webinar Series

November 17, December 1 & 15, January 5 & 19

Community & Pro Bono

- Member, Canisius High School Alumni Board of Governors
- President, Homespace, Inc. Board of Directors
- Board of Directors: Compass House
- 2023 Rising Leaders Program, Leadership Buffalo