



## MATTHEW K. PARKER

Senior Associate

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Matthew focuses his practice on business litigation and employment litigation matters in New York City and throughout New York State. He has extensive experience handling a variety of business and contract litigation matters on behalf of financial institutions and commercial clients, including claims involving breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, shareholder disputes, tortious interference with contract, and other business torts. Matthew's commercial practice also involves defense and prosecution of intellectual property claims, including trade secret and unlawful competition claims.

Matthew's employment litigation practice involves representing employers in discrimination and retaliation claims, employment contract litigation, wage and hour class actions, and claims involving restrictive covenants and non-compete clauses.

As a member of the Cannabis & Hemp Practice, Matthew advises clients on a range of issues affecting the cultivation, processing, distribution, and sale of cannabis and hemp products. Matthew counsels businesses seeking licenses to operate within the industry, as well as clients seeking to do business with the cannabis industry, focusing on regulatory compliance and risk minimization.

Matthew is also a member of the Product Liability & Complex Tort Practice, which represents businesses in complex, mass tort and products liability actions.

### Honors

- Listed, *Best Lawyers in America* Ones to Watch (Product Liability Litigation - Plaintiffs) 2024
- Recipient of the 2022 *Pro Bono* Award from the United States District Court for the Western District of New York
- Listed, *Upstate New York Super Lawyers* Rising Stars (Business Litigation) 2017 - 2023

605 Third Avenue  
Suite 2300  
New York City, NY 10158

Buffalo  
The Guaranty Building  
140 Pearl Street  
Suite 100  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
716.856.4000

### Practices & Industries

Business Litigation  
Cannabis & Hemp  
Class Action Litigation  
Employment Litigation  
Home Care  
Non-Compete, Non-Solicit & Trade Secrets  
Product Liability & Complex Tort  
Wage & Hour

### Admissions

New York  
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York  
U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York  
U.S. District Court, Western District of New York

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- Managing editor, *Buffalo Human Rights Law Review*, 2013-14
- CALI Award for Insurance Law, 2013

## Experience

A Hodgson Russ team led by Ryan Lucinski and Matthew Parker won summary judgment for a Fortune 100 client that manufactures turf and lawn care equipment. The plaintiff was cleaning a compact utility tractor, with a grass dethatcher attachment, when he slipped and got his foot caught in the running thatcher blades, suffering significant injuries that resulted in a below the knee amputation of his leg. During discovery, we adduced evidence that the tractor's seat switch had been bypassed by the plaintiff's employer, which allowed the attachment to remain under power without an operator in the seat. To counter our client's subsequent-modification defense, the plaintiff alleged that the tractor's seat switch was too easy to bypass, but we were able to show that such mechanism was state of the art and a common design among competitor model tractors. The plaintiff sought in excess of \$20,000,000 in damages. The Court granted summary judgment to our client and disposed of the case entirely. No appeal was taken.

## Press Releases

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

83 Hodgson Russ LLP Attorneys Ranked in 2024 Edition of *Best Lawyers in America*  
August 17, 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

Sixty-Two Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to 2020 *Upstate New York Super Lawyers*  
*Hodgson Russ Press Release*, September 8, 2020

U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit

## Education

The Ohio State University, B.A.,  
magna cum laude

University at Buffalo School of Law,  
J.D., magna cum laude

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Hodgson Russ Announces Three Newly Elected Partners, Six Attorneys Promoted to Senior Associate  
*Hodgson Russ Press Release*, January 17, 2020

Sixty Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to 2019 Upstate New York Super Lawyers  
*Press Release*, August 12, 2019

Sixty-One Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to 2018 Upstate New York Super Lawyers  
*Press Release*, August 20, 2018

Seventy Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to 2017 Upstate New York Super Lawyers, Hugh Russ Listed Among Top 50  
*Press Release*, September 6, 2017

## **Publications**

Biden Administration to Reschedule Cannabis to Schedule III Under Controlled Substances Act  
*Hodgson Russ Cannabis & Hemp Alert*, May 17, 2024

The Final New York State Budget is Approved and Imposes Significant Disruptions for New York Home Care Providers  
*Hodgson Russ Home Care Alert*, May 6, 2024

Final New York State Budget Imposes New Requirements for New York Home Care Providers and Significant Financial Investments for the Health Care Industry  
*Hodgson Russ Home Care and Healthcare Alert*, May 16, 2023

Second Circuit Modifies Injunction and Opens the Door for Dispensaries in WNY  
*Hodgson Russ Cannabis & Hemp Alert*, March 29, 2023

New Year, New Home Care Laws: Medicaid-Funded Home Health Care Services Must Implement EVV by January 1, 2023  
*Hodgson Russ Home Care Alert*, December 20, 2022

An 11th-Hour Obstacle for Retail Cannabis Licensing in NY  
*Law360*, November 21, 2022

NYS Facing First Lawsuit Over Retail Cannabis Dispensary Licensing Process  
*Hodgson Russ Cannabis & Hemp Alert*, October 19, 2022

The Wait is Over: New York State Department of Health Releases the Licensed Home Care Services Agency Licensure Application  
*Hodgson Russ Home Care Alert*, August 19, 2022

New York Releases Proposed Regulations for Packaging/Labeling and Marketing/Advertising Adult-Use Cannabis Products  
*Hodgson Russ Cannabis and Hemp Alert*, July 7, 2022

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New York Court of Appeals Reverses Multimillion Dollar Verdict  
*Hodgson Russ Product Liability & Complex Tort Alert*, May 10, 2022

### **Presentations & Events**

Labor & Employment Developments  
605 Third Avenue, Suite 2300, New York City, NY 10158, November 29, 2023

### **Professional Affiliations**

- New York State Bar Association
- Bar Association of Erie County

### **Community & Pro Bono**

- Class director, Nichols School Alumni Association
- Volunteer Tutor, Our Lady of Hope Home School