HUSCH BLACKWELL



THOMAS J. CEDOZ

Senior Associate

The Link Virtual Office Milwaukee, WI*

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Overview

Tom defends clients in labor and employment matters, with a particular emphasis on the healthcare industry.

As a young teen, Tom discovered a fascination with law when his mother, then a nurse, attended law school: he enjoyed studying her material so much that he knew he had to make a career here himself. After earning his J.D., he quickly realized that he should focus his practice on litigation because he thrived on the competitive element. Tom loves nothing more than putting a case together and winning for clients.

Tom defends clients in complex labor and employment disputes in both state and federal courts. His experience includes collective actions under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA); harassment, discrimination, retaliation and unfair labor practices claims; alleged violations of wage and hour laws; theft of trade secrets; tortious interference claims; collective bargaining and labor arbitrations; noncompetition litigation; and alleged Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) violations. In addition to his labor and employment work, Tom also has broad experience with general commercial litigation, including breach of contract cases.

While Tom represents clients in a variety of fields, he has a special emphasis on healthcare. It's a world he knows firsthand after growing up with a mother who was first a nurse and now the general counsel of a hospital system. He

Industries

Manufacturing Technology Transportation

Services

Class Action Defense
Employment Class & Collective
Actions
Employment Litigation Defense

ERISA & Employee Benefits Litigation

Labor & Employment

Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution

Traditional Labor Relations
Workplace Safety & Health

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has represented hospitals in numerous matters, including physician terminations, OSHA violations and other litigation matters.

Tom is known as a highly responsive and reachable attorney, but what clients value most is his emphasis on knowing their businesses. Tom places a high value on understanding clients' industries, as well as their own specific organizations, cultures and business needs. He's known for visiting client facilities and working to gain an inside view of how a business runs—knowledge that makes him a more effective litigator and a better defender of client interests.

Experience

- Successfully defended government contracting client from a claim of breached partnership and contractual obligations by a subcontractor for \$3.7 million after five-day arbitration hearing.
- Obtained summary disposition for bank client on claims involving Michigan's Whistleblower Protection Act and wrongful termination in violation of public policy.
- Defended employers in Department of Labor audits involving the Fair Labor Standards Act and the McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act.
- Counseled and represented employers in administrative and civil litigation for employment discrimination, retaliation and unfair labor practices under federal and state laws, including the Family and Medical Leave Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, Employee Retirement Income Security Act, National Labor Relations Act, Fair Labor Standards Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

Education

- J.D., University of Kansas School of Law
 - Kansas Journal of Law and Public Policy, Staff Editor
- B.S., Miami University Farmer School of Business
 - O Business Economics

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Admissions

- Michigan
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

Thomas is associated with the Milwaukee office for telephone and mailing purposes only. He is not admitted in Wisconsin.

Community Leadership

- Southwest Michigan First
- Parks Board, City of Portage, Michigan

*Thomas works remotely and is licensed in Michigan, practicing in New Hudson. Contact Thomas via email or phone for inperson/virtual meetings. Use our Milwaukee address for mail/deliveries only (not licensed in Wisconsin).