



HAGENS BERMAN

Steve W. Berman

MANAGING PARTNER

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Years of Experience

37

Bar Admissions

Washington

Illinois

Court Admissions



Supreme Court of the United States
Supreme Court of Illinois
Supreme Court of Washington
U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Washington
U.S. District Court for the Northern and Central Districts of Illinois
U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
First Circuit Court of Appeals
Second Circuit Court of Appeals
Third Circuit Court of Appeals
Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals
Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals
Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals
Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals
Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals
Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals
DC Circuit Court of Appeals
Federal Circuit Court of Appeals
U.S. Court of Federal Claims

Served as co-lead counsel for the [largest settlement in world history](#) against Big Tobacco, and at the time [the largest automotive, antitrust, ERISA and securities settlements](#) in U.S. history.

Leading Litigators Series:

Steve Berman represents consumers, investors and employees in large, complex litigation held in state and federal courts. Steve's trial experience has earned him significant recognition and led The National Law Journal to name him one of the [100 most powerful lawyers in the nation](#), and to repeatedly name Hagens Berman one of the top 10 plaintiffs' firms in the country. Steve was named an MVP of the Year by Law360 in 2016 and 2017 for his class-action litigation and received the [2017 Plaintiffs' Trailblazer award](#). He was recognized for the third year in a row as an Elite Trial Lawyer by The National Law Journal.

Steve co-founded Hagens Berman in 1993 after his prior firm refused to represent several young children who consumed fast food contaminated with E. coli—Steve knew he had to help. In that case, Steve proved that the poisoning was the result of [Jack in the Box's cost cutting](#) measures along with gross negligence. He was further inspired to build a firm that vociferously fought for the rights of those unable to fight for themselves. Berman's innovative approach, tenacious conviction and impeccable track record have earned him an excellent reputation and numerous historic legal



victories. He is considered one of the nation's most successful class-action attorneys, and has been praised for securing record-breaking settlements and tangible benefits for class members. Steve is particularly known for his tenacity in forging consumer settlements that return a high percentage of recovery to class members.

[Video Interviews of Steve W. Berman »](#)
[Print & Online Feature Interviews »](#)

Click on the links below for more information:

Current Role

- Managing Partner, Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP

Recent Success

- [Volkswagen Franchise Dealerships](#) - \$1.6 billion
Lead counsel for VW franchise dealers suit, in which a settlement of \$1.6 billion has received final approval, and represents a substantial recovery for the class.
- [Stericycle Sterisafe Contract Litigation](#) – \$295 million
Hagens Berman's team, led by Steve Berman, filed a class-action lawsuit against Stericycle, a massive medical waste disposal company and achieved a sizable settlement for hundreds of thousands of its small business customers.
- [Dairy Price-Fixing](#) – \$52 million
This antitrust suit's filing unearthed a massive collusion between the biggest dairy producers in the country, responsible for almost 70 percent of the nation's milk. Not only was the price of milk artificially inflated, but this scheme ultimately also cost 500,000 young cows their lives.

Recognition

- 2016-2018 Class Action MVP of the Year, Law360
- 2018 Honoree for Outstanding Antitrust Litigation Achievement in Private Law Practice, American Antitrust Institute
- 2018 State Executive Committee member, The National Trial Lawyers
- 2018 Top Attorney of the Year, International Association of Top Professionals
- 2017 Plaintiffs' Trailblazer, The National Law Journal
- 2017 Class Actions (Plaintiff) Law Firm of the Year in California, Global Law Experts
- 2003-2017 Washington Super Lawyers
- 2014-2016 Elite Trial Lawyers, The National Law Journal
- 2014-2015 Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America



- 2014 Finalist for Trial Lawyer of the Year, Public Justice
- 2013 One of the 100 most influential attorneys in America, The National Law Journal
- 2000 Most powerful lawyer in the state of Washington, The National Law Journal
- One of the top 10 plaintiffs' firms in the country, The National Law Journal

[View all Awards and Recognition »](#)

Presentations

- Steve is a frequent public speaker and has been a [guest lecturer at Stanford University](#), University of Washington, University of Michigan and Seattle University Law School.

Personal Insight

Steve was a high school and college soccer player and coach. Now that his daughter's soccer skills exceed his, he is relegated to being a certified soccer referee and spends weekends being yelled at by parents, players and coaches. Steve is also an avid cyclist and is heavily involved in working with young riders on the international [Hagens Berman Axeon](#) cycling team and the [Hagens Berman | Supermint Pro Cycling](#) women's team.

Education



University of Chicago Law School, J.D., 1980



University of Michigan, B.A., 1976