bodman

# Dennis J. Levasseur

## In Memoriam

T

F



**We are saddened to report that Dennis J. Levasseur, a long-time member of Bodman, passed away on March 2, 2023.**

Dennis leaves a major imprint on the Firm. He joined Bodman in 1987 after serving as a law clerk for the Honorable Stewart Newblatt of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. During his more than 35-year career with the Firm, he represented many of our largest clients in complex business litigation matters, served as city attorney for Grosse Pointe Park for more than a decade, and served on many management committees. As a senior member of the Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution Practice Group, he worked with and helped mentor generations of Bodman attorneys. He will be sorely missed.

Dennis was also active outside of Bodman, serving as a founder of the Historical Society of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan and on the Executive Board and as Vice President for Legal Affairs of the Detroit Historical Society.

On behalf of the entire Bodman family, we extend our sincere condolences to Dennis's wife, Melissa, and their daughters, Kathryn Cousin and Margaret Levasseur.

DENNIS'S FIRM BIOGRAPHY, WHICH PROVIDES ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF HIS MANY CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENTS, APPEARS BELOW:

### education

Wayne State University Law School, J.D.

Wayne State University, B.A.

### admissions

Michigan

### court admissions

U.S. District Ct., E.D. Mich.

U.S. District Ct., W.D. Mich.

**Mr. Levasseur represents clients in complex commercial litigation and arbitrations with particular focus on intellectual property litigation, franchise/dealer litigation, complex commercial litigation, trade secret litigation, securities litigation and arbitration, and banking and finance litigation, in proceedings throughout the United States.**

Mr. Levasseur has over 30 years of experience representing businesses, including financial institutions, franchisors, insurance companies, securities broker dealers, and manufacturers in a whole host of matters. His approach is to focus on the most cost effective and favorable resolution of disputes, either through settlement or trial.

Before joining Bodman, Mr. Levasseur clerked for the Honorable Stewart A. Newblatt of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Mr. Levasseur is a founder of the Historical Society of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan and serves as the Legal/Government Committee Chair and on the Executive Board as the Vice President for Legal Affairs of the Detroit Historical Society. He is the former City Attorney for Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan.

Mr. Levasseur is listed as the 2021 Detroit "Lawyer of the Year" for Litigation-Banking & Finance in *The Best Lawyers in America*. He is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America 2023* under Commercial Litigation, Litigation-Banking & Finance, and Litigation-Intellectual Property, listed in *Chambers USA 2022* under Commercial Litigation, listed in *Michigan Super Lawyers 2006-2022* under Securities Litigation, listed in *Benchmark Litigation 2008-2023* as a Litigation Star, and is listed as a 2022 "Top Lawyer" for Litigation-Banking and Finance and Litigation-Intellectual Property by *DBusiness* magazine. He is AV Preeminent® Peer Rated by Martindale-Hubbell.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND RECOGNITION

- *Chambers USA 2022*, Commercial Litigation
- *The Best Lawyers in America® 2016*, 2018 and 2021 Detroit "Lawyer of the Year," Litigation- Banking & Finance
- *The Best Lawyers in America® 2012-2023*, Commercial Litigation, Litigation-Banking & Finance and Litigation-Intellectual Property
- *Benchmark Litigation 2008-2023*, Litigation Star

- *DBusiness* Magazine "Top Lawyers" 2010, 2013-2022, Litigation-Commercial, Litigation-Banking and Finance, Litigation-Intellectual Property, Insurance Law
- *Michigan Super Lawyers, 2006-2022*, Securities Litigation
- *Michigan Super Lawyers 2020*, Top 100 Attorneys
- Martindale-Hubbell® AV Preeminent® Peer Rated for Highest Level of Professional Excellence; Endorsed for High Ethical Standing

## CIVIC, CULTURAL, AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Historical Society of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Founder
- Detroit Historical Society, Legal/Government Committee Chair and Vice President for Legal Affairs

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- FINRA® Arbitrator
- Wayne County Mediation Tribunal, Commercial Mediator
- Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association
  - Compliance & Legal Society
- American Bar Association
  - Forum on Franchising
- Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of Michigan Chapter
  - Summer Associate Courthouse Program Committee, Co-Chair
  - Newsletter Committee
- Detroit Bar Association
- Oakland County Bar Foundation (Fellow)