



Benjamin D. Carnahan

Partner

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Cleveland, OH

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Over the course of his career, Ben has worked with a variety of clients, from closely held companies to Fortune 500 companies, cost-effectively resolving all types of business and real estate matters. He has extensive experience in complex commercial and consumer loan transactions and litigation, with an emphasis on defense of banks, consumer finance companies, mortgage lenders and loan servicers against federal and state consumer statutory claims. Having served as Vice Chairman of a nationwide credit union in Northeast Ohio, Ben has a deep understanding of the reputational, operational, and regulatory challenges that confront highly regulated financial institutions.

Ben builds long lasting partnerships with his clients, helping them identify & mitigate risks before they become a problem and advising clients on the implementation of litigation strategy & management to minimize and avoid litigation. Ben prides himself in not being a “check-the-box” attorney; his primary focus is resolving client matters in a creative, streamlined, and cost-effective ways.

Outside of his practice, Ben enjoys coaching youth sports, painting, hiking, skiing, and boating with his wife, two children, and yellow lab.

Services

- Litigation
- Bank Regulatory & Enforcement
- Commercial Finance
- Banking & Financial Services

Education

- Cleveland-Marshall College of Law (J.D.)
- Kent State University (B.A.)
 - Golden Key National Honor Society

Bar Admissions

- Ohio

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Affiliations/Memberships

- Vice-Chairman, Taleris Credit Union
- Member, Ohio State Bar Association
- Member, Ohio Mortgage Bankers Association
- Member, Ohio Mortgage Bankers Association's Legislative Subcommittee
- Member, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
- Former Member, Subcommittee on Vacant Foreclosed Properties in City of Cleveland
- Volunteer, 3Rs – Rights, Responsibilities, Realities Program

Distinctions

- Crains Cleveland Business, "Notable Litigators and Trial Attorneys 2025"
- *Best Lawyers*®
 - Financial Services Regulation Law (2024)
- Super Lawyers ®
 - Ohio Super Lawyer ®, Business Litigation (2021 – 2022)
 - Ohio Rising Stars Edition ® (2015 – 2019)

Publications

June 16, 2025

Consumer Lending Compliance in Uncertain Times

Crain's Cleveland Business

September 18, 2023

Leveling The Playing Field For Underserved Entrepreneurs

Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association Bar Journal