DarrowEverett LLP



Douglas B. Otto - Partner

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Bio

Douglas B. Otto is a Partner and a Practice Leader for DarrowEverett's Business Litigation & Dispute Resolution practice. He is an experienced, broad-based litigator and trial attorney who concentrates his work in complex business, intellectual property and commercial law, with a proven track record of successfully litigating claims based on unfair competition, fraud, and antitrust violations, false advertising, theft of trade secrets, invasions of privacy and the misappropriation of confidential and proprietary business information. Doug defends product and equipment manufacturers and has a wide array of clients from the life sciences, pharmaceutical, medical device, biotech, energy, and technology-based industries. He has tried cases to both judge and jury, across numerous state and federal court jurisdictions; has presented oral argument to our nation's second highest court, the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C.; has experience before various federal and state administrative agencies; and, he has successfully arbitrated matters arising out of private-sector disputes.

Practice Areas

- Business Litigation & Dispute Resolution

- Bankruptcy & Creditor Rights Litigation
- Commercial Litigation
- Commercial Real Estate
- Contract Disputes
- Employment Litigation
- Insurance Coverage
- Intellectual Property & Technology
- Patent, Copyright & Trademark Litigation
- Product Liability Defense

Prior Experience

Doug's litigation and transactional experience extend to matters of commercial finance, secured lending, workouts, venture capital, licensing, mergers and acquisitions, commercial real estate, shareholder disputes, and issues of lender liability involving both private and commercial lenders. His bankruptcy practice focuses on creditors' rights and representing creditors in the context of business reorganizations. His creditor-side representation in contested matters is geared toward protecting secured claims and other priority interests.

In addition, Doug partners with his clients to provide outside general counsel, conferring on planning and business initiatives. He manages risk and advises on matters involving corporate governance; employment policy; commercial drafting; financing; and the validity of patents, trademarks, and copyrights. Doug is fully committed to finding practical solutions that meet the business needs of his clients. He is a frequent guest lecturer for various business and industry trade groups.

Early in his career, Doug was a Partner at a large Northeast regional firm where he first specialized in product liability and toxic tort defense, after which he transitioned to the firm's business litigation group where he developed into a department leader. Doug later moved his practice to a mid-size firm where his primary focus continued to be litigating and resolving business disputes.

Representative Matters

- Successfully represented three defendants in a Massachusetts trade secrets case who were dismissed for lack of personal jurisdiction. The court found that the plaintiff's jurisdictional allegations failed to satisfy both the Massachusetts Long-Arm Statute and constitutional due process requirements.

- Successful client representation in numerous contract, business, shareholder and partnership disputes involving financial institutions; insurance agencies; real estate and investment companies; construction trades; product manufacturers; and technology companies.
- Obtained multi-million dollar judgment on behalf of four plaintiffs in a federal case involving fraudulent investment solicitation and violations of the RICO Act.
- Obtained consent agreement, compensatory damages, and attorney's fees for a plaintiff healthcare technology provider in a computer source code federal copyright action.
- Lead counsel appearing before the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals representing a biotech company in a patent dispute involving p63 technology used to diagnose prostate cancer.
- Obtained a permanent injunction on behalf of a robotics company against a competitor in a federal copyright action, securing proprietary technology solutions, software code, and numerous government research proposals.
  Defended and resolved a TCPA class action filed against a health insurance brokerage in federal court, achieving an early and favorable settlement prior to class certification or discovery. This result minimized client exposure and avoided the significant costs typically associated with class action litigation.
- For an additional, comprehensive list of matters handled by Douglas Otto, click here.

Insights

- Litigation Enforcement Trends in the Secondary Market for Pre IPO Shares - via JD Supra, February, 2026
- Generative AI and Trade Secrets: A New Frontier for IP Litigation - via JD Supra, May, 2025
- Court Rulings Demonstrate That Privilege Is Not Always a Right - via JD Supra, September, 2023

Media Appearances

- Article: Secondary Market Transactions in Pre-IPO Companies: Opportunities and Investor Risks, Via Traders Magazine (January 2026)

Bar Admissions

- Massachusetts
- United States District Court of Appeals, 1st Circuit
- United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts

- United States District Court, for the Western District of Michigan
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

Education

- New England School of Law, J.D.
- University of Michigan, B.A., Economics

Accolades

- Guest Author: *Generative AI and Trade Secrets: A New Frontier for IP Litigation*, via IP Litigator, July 2025
- AV Preeminent Rated from *Martindale-Hubbell*, highest possible rating on both legal ability and ethics based upon the confidential opinion of peers and judges
- Super Lawyers honoree – 2024, 2025, 2026 honoree

