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Patrick Seyferth



Related Services

Product Liability
Advanced Technologies
Business and Commercial
Class Actions
Securities / Finance

Education

University of Michigan Law
School, J.D., *cum laude*, 1992

Michigan State University, B.S.,
1987

Federal Clerkships

Judge Robert Cleland,
United States District Court for
the Eastern District of
Michigan, 1992-1994

Patrick G. Seyferth *Founding Member*

Patrick Seyferth is a co-founder of Bush Seyferth PLLC and a member of BSP's executive committee. In 2022, Patrick was appointed by Chief Judge Jeffrey S. Sutton to the Advisory Committee on Rules for the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. He also serves as an Executive Board member for the Federal Bar Association (ED of Michigan); a Sustaining Member to the Product Liability Advisory Council; and on the 6th Circuit Life Member Committee. Patrick was recognized in 2019 by Best Lawyers as Troy, Michigan's Product Liability Lawyer of the Year and was featured in Leading Lawyers Magazine – Michigan Edition 2020.

Patrick has handled catastrophic product liability and commercial cases in 23 states. During the past 25 years, he has gained extensive trial experience, which includes first-chairing complex trials through jury verdict in AZ, MI, OH and TN. Patrick has proudly represented some of America's best-known companies — such as GM LLC, Ford Motor Company, Pulte, VWGoA, Textile Management, Nissan, and Hyundai — as well as several individuals. He has been recognized for his accomplishments as a federal mediator, lectured nationally on trial advocacy issues and managed BSP's \$1,000,000 plus charitable foundation since 2003.

Representative Matters

Product Liability

- As lead counsel obtained a full defense verdict in South Bend, Indiana on multiple automotive product liability claims including defective and unreasonably dangerous design, failure to warn, and failure to instruct and a punitive damage claim against a major automotive OEM.
- Successfully handled automotive diagnostic sensor defect claim in CT re GM LLC truck brought on behalf of quadriplegic driver
- First-chaired AZ jury trial on behalf of automotive manufacturer of a truck involving severe injuries and claim of electronic sensing defect: No cause
- Argued Sixth Circuit appeal in support of District Court's dismissal in a high-exposure fire case: 3-0 affirmed
- First-chaired TN jury trial on behalf of automotive manufacturer involving TBI injuries in an SUV and claim of restraint defect: No cause
- Argued appeal in Michigan Court of Appeals Complex Div. to uphold defense verdict involving child death product liability case: 3-0 affirmed
- First-chaired AZ jury trial on behalf of automotive manufacturer involving significant injury in a minivan and claim of air bag defect: No cause
- Assisted in highly publicized MI jury trial in product liability involving the death of 7-year-old child: No cause
- Represented injured Plaintiff in MI jury trial that involved near-drowning: \$700,000 jury verdict
- Assisted in NY federal jury trial in case involving child death and claim of product defect: Judgment as a matter of law (Published)

Commercial / Class Actions

- First-chaired OH jury trial on behalf of major finance company on contract and a \$1B punitive damage claim: defense verdict
- Defeated class certification in national MDL class action involving European automotive manufacturer and claims regarding telematics (Published)
- First-chaired eight high-profile automotive dealer arbitrations
- First-chaired arbitration on behalf of national homebuilder involving former high-ranking executive
- Successfully defended closely-held corporation in \$110M federal 'alter-ego' action that attempted to pierce the corporate veil



Court Admissions

United States Court of Appeals
for the Sixth Circuit

United States District Court for
the Eastern District of Michigan

United States District Court for
the Western District of
Michigan

Michigan Supreme Court

Michigan Court of Appeals

Patrick G. Seyferth *Founding Member (cont.)*

- Obtained favorable outcome in contractual indemnification case regarding underlying TX product liability fatality claim
- Obtained permanent injunction in National business defamation and trademark case
- Successfully represented MI Legislature in Covid-19 cases re: Governor's Executive Orders and voter ID requirements (Published)
- Defeated AZ class certification claims on behalf of national home builder - obtained dismissal of claims and significant fee award

Mediations/ADR

- Served as court appointed facilitator in over 70 U.S. District Court cases
- Awarded Certificate of Recognition by U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan for facilitation of multiple complex cases
- Selected as a mediator in multiple Circuit Court business cases
- Served as arbitrator in multi-million-dollar breach of contract case
- Appointed as a Special Master in U.S. District Court cases involving RICO, attorney client privilege, Qui Tam and complex discovery issues

Professional Activities

- Life Member Committee – U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals (Appointed Member)
- Advisory Committee on Rules – U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals (Appointed Member)
- Life Member – U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals
- Federal Bar Association Eastern District of Michigan, *Executive Board Member, Sustaining Member*
- Product Liability Advisory Council, *Sustaining Member*
- Leading Lawyers, *Advisory Board Member*, 2018 – present
- Oakland County Bar Foundation, *Fellow*
- Eastern District of Michigan, *Appointed Member e-Filing Rules Committee*
- Oakland County Bar Association, *Member*
- American Bar Foundation, *Life Fellow*
- Michigan Defense Trial Counsel, *Member*

Honors & Awards

- Chambers USA Guide, *Product Liability: Automobile (USA - Nationwide) Band 1, Litigation: General Commercial (Michigan) Band 2* (2023)
- Michigan Lawyers Weekly, *Hall of Fame* (2023)
- Best Lawyers® Lawyer of the Year, *Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions – Defendants* (Troy, MI: '23)
- Michigan Super Lawyers, Top 100, (MI: '11-'17, '20-'22)
- America's Top 100 Attorneys® (2018)
- Best Lawyers® Lawyer of the Year, *Product Liability Litigation – Defendants* (Troy, MI: '19)
- U.S. News Best Lawyers ® ('10-present)
- Inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*®: Commercial Litigation and Product Liability Litigation – Defendants ('12 – present), Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions – Defendants ('21 – present)
- U.S.D.C. Eastern District of Michigan, Certificate of Appreciation, Merit Selection Panel ('11)
- Michigan Lawyer's Weekly, *Leader In The Law* ('11)
- Michigan Super Lawyers ('06-present)
- DBusiness Top Lawyers ('08-'18, '21-present)
- Martindale Hubbell ® Peer Review Rating of AV

Invited Speaker

- Product Liability Advisory Council (Var. States: '09, '11, '14, '15, '16, 18, '20)
- Network of Trial Law Firms (Var. States: '18, '23)
- Intelligent Transport Systems World Congress (Canada: '17)

Patrick G. Seyferth *Founding Member (cont.)*

- Defense Research Institute Strictly Automotive (Var. States: '13, '15, '17)
- North American International Auto Show – AutoMobili-D (MI: '17)
- University of Michigan UMTRI Program (MI: '10, '11, '13, '16, '17)
- Privacy + Security Forum (Wash. D.C.: '16)
- Intnt'l Assoc. of Privacy Professionals Privacy. Security. Risk (CA: '16)
- Association of Corporate Counsel Michigan Chapter (MI: '15, '16)
- 72nd Judicial Conference of the Sixth Circuit (TN: '12)
- Crain's In-House Summit (MI: '12)
- 71st Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference (KY: '11)
- Federal Bar Association (MI: '10)
- Speaker at Investiture of 6th Circuit Federal Judge Raymond Kethledge, Oath Administered by Justice Anthony Kennedy (MI: '08)

Publications

- Avoiding the Blind Spots: Evidentiary Issues, Exhibits, Experts, and Trial Strategies, *DRI For the Defense*, Published Winter 2018
- Privacy, Cybersecurity, and the Connected Car, *DRI In-House Defense Quarterly*, Published Spring 2015
- Lawsuits Involving Component Suppliers, *DRI In-House Defense Quarterly*, Published Spring 2012
- Trial Strategies: Humanizing the Corporate Defendant, *DRI In-House Defense Quarterly*, Published Winter 2010

Community & Pro-Bono Involvement

Patrick heads the BSP Charitable Foundation which, to date, has raised nearly \$1 million for various charities. He also serves on the Advisory Board for New Day Foundation for Families, a MI non-profit that provides resources to families afflicted by cancer. In 2018, Patrick received the New Day Foundation for Families Matt Kell and Cathy Spehn Legacy Award. In 2022, the New Day Foundation for Families honored Patrick for his steadfast commitment to the organization with the Jack Aronson Champion Award. This award recognizes those who demonstrate a champion's spirit of humility, courage, strength, and perseverance in the effort to bring hope to families fighting cancer.

Patrick leads the firm's *pro bono* efforts and has also gained positive results for individuals and families in need. In one *pro bono* case, Patrick helped 2 young girls deal with a child sexual abuse matter that made a "lasting impact" on their lives.

Personal

Before co-founding BSP in 2003, Patrick was an equity partner at Feeney Kellett Wiener & Bush. Patrick remains grateful to his many mentors, including his 2 years of service as a federal law clerk to U.S. District Court Judge Robert H. Cleland. Before attending law school, Patrick worked as a broker in the food service industry.

Although a Spartan to the core (he met his wife Sandi in East Lansing), Patrick is proud to have graduated from the University of Michigan Law School. Patrick and his wife Sandi – a CPA who does charity work and serves as the Controller for Annox Company – have 5 children and reside in Rochester, Michigan. Spending time with his family is Patrick's favorite hobby.