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vanderford@bsplaw.com

Related Services

Product Liability

Business & Commercial

Education

University of Southern California Gould School of Law, J.D., 2015

University of Colorado at Boulder, B.A., History, 2012

Court Admissions

California State Courts

Michigan State Courts

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

Ryan J. Vanderford *Partner*

Ryan J. Vanderford focuses his practice on product liability litigation. Ryan also possesses extensive litigation experience in class action defense, insurance recovery, and mass tort litigation. He serves as a member on BSP's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee.

Representative Matters

- Obtained complete defense award in favor of an automotive manufacturer in environmental arbitration.
- Represented a manufacturer in an insurance recovery litigation resulting in settlement days before trial with total recoveries exceeding $50 million.
- Defended a private investment firm in an arbitration concerning breach of contract, defamation, and employment-based claims, including obtaining a seven-figure attorneys' fee award for the client.
- Defended a trade association, the Independent Film & Television Alliance, against wage and hour class action claims.
- Defended a family-owned plumbing part manufacturer, Fluidmaster, Inc., against several product liability consumer class actions by defeating a class certification bid in a coordinated proceeding in the Northern District of Illinois.
- Assisted The Broad museum in federal litigation seeking insurance coverage for claims arising from the construction of the modern art museum.
- Obtained the dismissal of nationwide class action labeling claims against a well-known cookie maker, Lenny & Larry's.
- Represented several corporate executives in criminal DOJ, SEC, and EPA investigations.

Professional Memberships & Activities

Detroit Bar Association, *Member*
Eastern District of Michigan Bar Association, *Member*
Oakland County Bar Association, *DE&I Committee, Member*
American Board of Trial Advocates, *National Trial College Fellow*
Product Liability Advisory Council, *Future Leader*
Association of Business Trial Lawyers – Young Lawyers Division, Los Angeles, *Committee Member* (2019 - 2021)
Los Angeles County Bar Association, *Member* (2016 - 2021)

Honors & Leadership

The Best Lawyers in America Ones to Watch: Commercial Litigation (2024 - present), Product Liability Litigation - Defendants (2026)
Michigan Lawyers Weekly, *Up & Coming Lawyer* (Class of 2024)

Pro-Bono Involvement

Obtained a defense verdict for a 503(c)-non-profit school in a trial that threatened the school's viability.

Presentations & Publications

- Guest Lecturer, Automotive Human Factors (IOE 437), University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) (2025, 2026)
- "Not Your Average Accident Reconstruction – The Evolving Aspects of Automotive Litigation Involving ADAS," presented to PLAC Webinar Series (2024)
- "Update: CA SB 1149," presented to PLAC Fall Conference (2022)
- "California Set to Ban Most Confidentiality in Product Liability and Environmental Litigation," Washington Legal Foundation WLF Legal Pulse (2022)
- "Evaluating Insurance Options in Light of Suez Canal Blockage," Law360, co-author (2021)
- "Does 'Krab' Really Mean Crab? Ninth Circuit Decision on Deceptive Labeling Claim a Temporary Setback for Consumer Class Defendants," Washington Legal Foundation WLF Legal Pulse (2021)

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Ryan J. Vanderford *Partner (cont.)*

- "Pay-for-Play: An Age-Old Struggle for Appropriate Reform in a Changing Landscape Between Employer and Employee," Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal, Volume 24, Issue 3 (2015)
- "Cybertorts Present New Frontier for Insurance Coverage," Los Angeles Daily Journal, co-author (2014)

Prior Experience

Before joining Bush Seyferth PLLC, Ryan was a senior litigation associate at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP in Los Angeles, California. At Pillsbury, Ryan represented clients in large-scale product liability litigation, class action defense, government white collar investigations, insurance recovery, and mass tort litigation.

Ryan received his J.D. from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, where he was the Notes Editor for the *Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal.* He received his undergraduate degree in History, with a minor in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

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