



## Chris Hohn

Partner

St. Louis  
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### PRACTICES

- Business Litigation
- Class Action

### EDUCATION

- University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law, J.D., cum laude, 1995, Missouri Law Review, Order of the Coif
- Tufts University, B.A., Economics & Political Science, magna cum laude, 1992

### ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- Missouri

### REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

- Citibank
- Discover Financial Services, Inc.
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- Fifth Third Bank
- Monsanto
- Peabody Energy Corporation
- Riceland Foods, Inc.
- Scottrade
- US Bank, N.A.
- Webster Bank

### AFFILIATIONS

- The Illinois Bar
- The Missouri Bar

Chris leads complex litigation and class action defense for a host of major corporations in the financial services and agriculture industries.

He is a partner in Thompson Coburn's Class Action and Business Litigation groups, serves as the co-chair of the Financial Services Litigation practice area, and is a member of the firm's Management Committee.

Chris got his start in complex financial services litigation, where for 20 years he has regularly represented some of the nation's largest financial institutions and brokerages. In cases involving multiple plaintiffs, class actions, or multidistrict litigation, Chris excels at developing a highly focused litigation strategy. He regularly serves as lead and coordinating counsel for several financial institution clients in consumer-related credit card and mortgage cases. Chris represents clients in trial, in arbitrations and mediations, and on appeal.

As the co-chair of the firm's Agriculture industry group, Chris has taken a lead role in nearly every major litigation over the last decade related to alleged crop contamination by genetically modified strains of rice, soybeans, and corn. For agribusiness giants like Riceland and Monsanto, Chris has successfully litigated claims related to the introduction of GM crops and the disruption of the supply chain and export markets. Chris helps lead a GM task force within the firm that has developed an extensive database of experience, litigation capabilities, and successful trial and appellate strategies. He draws on that experience to defend clients facing individual or class action claims, and counsel them on risk management for new biotechnology or GM varieties.

### Recognitions

- Listed in Chambers USA, (by Chambers & Partners) 2013-2016
- Listed in Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers, (by Thomson Reuters) 2009-2019
  - Class Action/Mass Torts
  - Top 100 in Missouri & Kansas, 2012
  - Top 50 in St. Louis, 2011-2012

### Experience

- **Riceland Food Jury Trial**

## EMPLOYMENT

- Thompson Coburn LLP Partner, 2004-Present Associate, 1995-2003

## COMMUNITY

- Saint Louis Art Museum, Board Member, Corporate Partners Committee, 2014-Present
- St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, Lector, 2003-Present
- Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, Volunteer, St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers Program, 1997-Present
- St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association, Board Member, 2005-2012

Along with a team of attorneys, Chris tried a four-week jury trial in Arkansas state court on behalf of firm client, Riceland Foods, Inc. The trial was the culmination of years of work by the legal team that defended Riceland foods on multiple litigation fronts, including defense of multiple class action lawsuits in Arkansas, classes of farmers consolidated in an MDL in the Eastern District of Missouri, and several European Union customers suing in federal court. The Riceland legal team's strategy reversed Riceland's defensive position by asserting a cross-claim against a codefendant resulting in \$136.9 million jury verdict for Riceland.

### • **Hargis v. Webster Bank**

Chris represented Webster Bank and won summary judgment of a nationwide class action alleging the unauthorized practice of law related to fees charged on mortgage accounts. On appeal, Chris argued the case before the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which affirmed the judgment.

## Presentations

- "Lender Policies and Procedures for Subpoenas, Summons and Third-Party Demand Requests" Lorman Educational Services August 2017
- "Mandatory Arbitration Provisions"; Association of Corporate Counsel Program, July 2011
- Lecturer, "Class Action Basics"; February 2004
- Lecturer, "Class Action Practice and Procedure"; Federal CLE Program, May 2000
- Faculty/Panelist, "Mentoring to Build a Better Place"; American Bar Association Teleconference-- Webcast Program, November 2007

## Publications

- "Can You Really Sue for Fraud? Evaluating Potential Fraud Claims in Commercial Transactions"; *The St. Louis Bar Journal*, Summer 2007
- Co-Author, "Recent Trends and Defense Strategies for Pharmaceutical Class Actions"; *The St. Louis Bar Journal*, Spring 2005
- Co-Author, "The Attorneys' Fee Award in Class Action Litigation – Is the Carrot Too Big?"; *St. Louis Lawyer*, November 1999