VINCENT D. LOUWAGIE

Attorney, Shareholder, Executive Committee Member



Vincent Louwagie is a successful senior trial lawyer who practices in all areas of business litigation with an emphasis in complex investment and shareholder matters. During his 32-year career Vince has been consistently and widely recognized as one of the top business litigators in the state of Minnesota and has tried numerous cases to verdict or arbitration award in Minnesota and throughout the country.

Vince's experience is enhanced by his previous work as a financial auditor with KPMG. That background allows him to better understand the transactions and financial reports that form the backbone of his clients' investments. It also helps him probe those transactions for financial fraud. He has litigated disputes involving investments of all kinds, and has tried numerous cases to arbitration award, court or jury verdicts.

CONTACT

D 612-492-8209
vlouwagie@anthonyostlund.com
Legal Administrative Assistant:
Julie M. Blakeley
O 612-349-6969
jblakeley@anthonyostlund.com

EDUCATION

J.D., cum laude, University of Minnesota
B.S.B., University of Minnesota

ADMISSIONS

State of Minnesota
U.S. District of Minnesota
U.S. Tax Court
U.S. 8th Circuit Court of Appeals
U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals
U.S. 11th Circuit Court of Appeals

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Past President, Board of Directors, Hennepin County Bar Foundation (HCBF)
- Chair of the Development Committee (2014-2016), Hennepin County Bar Foundation (HCBF)
- HCBA Representative, Minnesota State Bar Association Assembly
- Member, Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association
- Member, Hennepin County Bar Association Member, Minnesota State Bar Association
- Member, Private Business Governance Committee, Minnesota State Bar Association's Business Law Section
- Member, Federal Bar Association
- 2016-2017 Chair, Partners in Excellence Annual Fund for University of Minnesota Law School

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Committee Member, drafting or amending the Minnesota Business Corporations Code, Revised Uniform Limited Liability Company Act, and the Minnesota Public Benefits Corporation Act

PUBLICATIONS

- *Unsettled: When Fraud Defeats The Effect of a Release*, Minnesota Lawyer and Finance & Commerce – Partner Content, May 2021
- OK Boomer, You Do Have Special Civil Remedies for Consumer Fraud; Minnesota Lawyer and Finance & Commerce – Partner Content, December 2019

AWARDS & HONORS

- Recognized by Minnesota Monthly Top Lawyers List, 2026
- Selected as Minnesota Lawyer's "MN Legal 250 List, 2026
- Chambers USA Rated Attorney, 2013–2026
- Minnesota Lawyer — The POWER LIST: Business Litigation, 2023-2025
- Selected by Best Lawyers in America as Minneapolis "Lawyer of the Year" Award Recipient for Securities/Capital Markets Law, 2022
- Recognized by Best Lawyers in America, 2018-2027
- Selected to the "Local Litigation Star — Minnesota" list by Benchmark Litigation, 2015–2018
- Selected for inclusion in the Minnesota Best Lawyer Listings by Minnesota Monthly magazine in the area of Securities / Capital Markets Law, 2015–2020
- Selected to the Best Lawyers in America in the practice area of Securities / Capital Markets Law every year since 2013
- Selected to the "Minnesota Super Lawyers" list by Super Lawyers, 2003–Present
- Selected to "Top 100: Minnesota Super Lawyers" list by Super Lawyers, 2008, 2011, 2013–2026

- Vincent Louwagie featured in Hennepin Lawyer: 2018-2019 HCBF President; November/ December, Vol. 87, Issue 6
- Lessons From Jury Service, Attorney At Law Magazine – Twin Cities Edition, September 2015
- Minnesota Public Benefit Corporation: Vehicle for Public Good or Abuse?, Attorney At Law Magazine – Twin Cities Edition, November 2014
- Damages in Fraud Cases, Not Just Out-Of-Pockets, co-authored with Andrea Davenport, The Hennepin Lawyer, July 2013
- Business Valuations in Marital Dissolutions, Attorney At Law Magazine – Twin Cities Edition, February 2013
- Cutting the Cost of Derivative Claims: The Role of the Special Litigation Committee, co-authored with Cory D. Olson, Bench & Bar of Minnesota, March 2009
- Will Counsel Please Take the Stand? The Hennepin Lawyer, February 2001
- *Minority Shareholder Disputes*. Seminar – 2001, Minnesota Institute of Legal Education, 2001
- When Abel Sues Cain: How Minority Shareholders Seek Redress for Corporate Wrongs in Light of Wessin v. Archives, The Hennepin Lawyer, September 1999
- Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and Investors' Rights, The Hennepin Lawyer, March/April 1996

- Consistently recognized as a Top 40 Business Litigator
- Chambers USA Rated Attorney, 2013–2024
- Selected as a Minnesota Lawyer's "Attorney of the Year," 2008
- Peer Reviewed as "AV® Preeminent™ 5.0" (highest possible rating), Martindale Hubbell
- Order of the Coif, University of Minnesota Law School

RESULTS

BAIRD V. RAYMOND JAMES (FINRA ARBITRATION 2024)
Obtained multi-million dollar award for raiding after five-week FINRA arbitration in Washington D.C., including the maximum punitive damages allowed under Virginia law.

GREAT PLAINS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC. V. STUDENT LOAN FINANCE CORPORATION, – N.W.2D –, 2020 WL 7690269 (MINN. CT. APP. DEC. 28, 2020)
Reversed the trial court's dismissal of fraud claims made by Anthony Ostlund's client; after taking discovery and winning a motion to plead punitive damages, negotiated a $3.5 million settlement payment for the client.

FAMILY BUSINESS DISPUTE IN WISCONSIN (2018)
Represented the majority owners of a large agricultural company in Wisconsin in a shareholder dispute, which settled on a confidential basis after trial.

TOWLEY V. TAVERNETTI
Served as a special litigation committee (SLC) in a business dispute between the owners of PowerBlock, Inc., a Minnesota Corporation. PowerBlock appointed Vince Louwagie to investigate, evaluate, and make a determination as to whether it was in the best interests of the corporation to pursue certain claims asserted on behalf of the corporation.

CONFIDENTIAL AAA ARBITRATION
Pursued significant accounting malpractice claims against a Big Four accounting firm on behalf of a group of individual clients. After months of discovery including over a dozen depositions and two weeks of arbitration during which numerous representatives of the accounting firm were cross examined by Mr. Louwagie, Anthony Ostlund was able to negotiate a settlement for its clients.

GOVERN, ET. AL. V. BERTHEL FISHER
Successfully defended broker dealer through FINRA arbitration hearing on customer claim. Claimants sought hundreds of thousands of dollars but were awarded zero. Panel ordered claimants to pay the vast majority of the hearing session deposits.

TUCKER, ET. AL V. BERTHEL FISHER
Successfully defended broker dealer through FINRA arbitration hearing on customer claim. Claimants sought millions of dollars but were awarded zero. Panel ordered claimants to pay the vast majority of the hearing session deposits.

SODERSTRUM V. BERTHEL FISHER

Successfully defended broker dealer through FINRA arbitration hearing on customer claim. Claimants sought hundreds of thousands of dollars but were awarded just $20,000.

DOUBLE BLACK DIAMOND D/B/A RED COW V. CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS
Successfully obtained restraining order against city in dispute and subsequent settlement relating to a parking restriction which would have had a serious impact on the restaurant business.

MARKUSON V. CROSSROADS MALL
Successfully defended mechanics lien case through trial in Dakota County District Court.

HAMELINK V. HAMELINK
Marital Dissolution case tried to Scott County District Court verdict.

PIPER JAFFRAY V. DAIN RAUSCHER
Successfully prosecuted raiding claim through FINRA arbitration hearing.

ROA INC., ET. AL V. NICHOLSON, ET AL.
Served as Consensual Special Magistrate presiding over 8-day trial. Decision on the merits affirmed on appeal on all substantive grounds. ROA, Inc. v. Nicholson, No. A12-1695, 2013 WL 2460354 (Minn. Ct. App. June 10, 2013)

CONFIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT DISPUTE
Successfully obtained confidential settlement for client in dispute with competitor and employee involving misuse of confidential information and competitive hiring.

EMPLOYMENT LAW
Successfully represented Susan Thornton in dispute with certain Republican members of state legislative staff over her employment as director of Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

RECENT BROKER DEALER REPRESENTATION
Vince has successfully represented broker dealers and registered representatives in defending against literally hundreds of claims since the start of the Great Recession. While many of these matters are resolved on a confidential basis, in the past several years several have gone through a hearing, and Vince's clients have prevailed. Vince has represented clients through arbitration hearings since 1989.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Raiding in the Financial Services Industry, Lying, Cheating & Stealing Seminar 2025, October 2025
- *Lying Cheating & Stealing by Business Owners in the Marital Termination Context,* Lying, Cheating & Stealing Seminar 2023, October 4, 2023
- LLCs A to Z: Member Rights, Fiduciary Duties, Oppression, Liability, Remedies, and Indemnification, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, February 2020
- Business and Tax Considerations with Minnesota's New LLC Act (Webinar), MN CPA Society of Certified Public Accountants, December 1, 2016
- Flex Your Fiduciary Duties: Options, Opportunities and Decision Points Under the New LLC Act, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, May 3, 2016
- Business Law Series: New MN LLC Act – Rights of Minority Owners, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education Panelist, February 16, 2016
- The New Minnesota LLC Act, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, August 11, 2015
- Business Law Series: New MN LLC Act – Rights of Minority Owners, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, January 23, 2015
- Public Benefit Corporation Seminar: Unique Litigation Traps and Issues>, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, August 28, 2014
- Remedies and Damages Series: Damages in Fraud Cases – Not Just Out-Of-Pockets, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, August 20, 2014
- Mock Securities Arbitration Presentation for Brokerage Firm, July 19, 2014

- Drafting Dispute Resolution Agreements: Top Traps for the Unwary, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, October 28, 2013
- Understanding the Legal Basis for Shareholder Disputes in Closely Held Businesses, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, October 28, 2013
- How to Litigate a Case in Minnesota State Court – When the Opposing Lawyer Crosses the Line: Effective Responses to 5 Common Discovery Abuses, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, October 2, 2013
- Winning Discovery: Successful Strategies, Processes and Best Practices, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, November 27, 2012
- Mastering the Deposition Process from Beginning to End, Hennepin County Bar Association, May 10, 2011
- Handling Challenging Depositions, Hennepin County Bar Association, April 6, 2010
- How to Litigate a Case in Minnesota State Court, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, March 3, 2010
- Twombly & Iqbal: The Death of Notice Pleading?, Minnesota State Bar Association Civil Litigation Section, February 8, 2010
- Candid Conversations between the Bench & Bar, Hennepin County Bar Association, November 5, 2009
- Business Law 101: The Ongoing Business – Business Opportunities as a Company Asset, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, November 16, 2009
- Handling Challenging Depositions, Hennepin County Bar Association, October 12, 2009
- Strategic Discovery: How to Fight Discovery Abuses and Win Discovery Disputes, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, May 20, 2009
- Business Law 103: Business Opportunity as a Company Asset, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, August 9, 2007
- Business Law 102: Divorce Business Style – Litigation among Corporate Shareholders and LLC Members under Sections 302A.751 and 322B.833, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, August 16, 2007
- Business Law 102: Divorce Business Style – Litigation among Corporate Shareholders and LLC Members under Sections 302A.751 and 322B.833, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, August 29, 2006
- Sarbanes-Oxley Act, Lorman Education Centers, Bloomington, MN, May 17, 2006
- Divorce Business Style: Litigation among Corporate Shareholders and LLC Members under Sections 302A.751 and 322B.833, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, March 31, 2006
- Business 202 Seminar: Divorce, Business Style, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, August 3, 2005
- Business 202: “Divorce, Business Style – Litigation Amongst Corporate Shareholder and LLC Members under Sections 302A.751 and 322B.833,” Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, August 13, 2004
- Fundamentals of Organizing Minnesota Corporations Seminar, Minnesota State Bar Association, MN CLE, August 7, 2003
- Arbitration Fundamentals Training/Mock Arbitration: Presentation to a regional securities broker/dealer and its registered representatives, June 6, 2003
- Professional Dilemmas in the Representation of Corporations and Institutions, Ethics & Elimination of Bias seminar sponsored by Minnesota CLE, April 29, 2003
- Ethics and the Elimination of Bias. Seminar, Minnesota Institute of Legal Education, March 2003
- The Fundamentals of Organizing Minnesota Corporations– “Planning to Avoid Shareholder Disputes,” Minnesota State Bar Association, 2002
- Accountants’ Liability Seminar, Minnesota Institute of Legal Education, 2002
- Brokerage Raiding Seminar, Hot Trends in Securities Arbitrations, 2002
- The General Practitioner’s Guide to Advising the High-Tech Start-Up Company, 2001
- Hennepin County Bar Association Fundamentals of Organizing Minnesota Corporations, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2001
- Securities Law for Non-Securities Lawyers, Minnesota Institute of Legal Education Minority Shareholder Disputes. Seminar – 2001, Minnesota Institute of Legal Education, 2001
- Securities Laws Recent Developments, Minnesota Institute of Legal Education,1998

- How to Avoid Spending Time and Money with Lawyers-Compliance Seminar for Registered Representatives, 1998
- White Collar Crime: Lying, Cheating & Stealing for Everyone, Minnesota Institute of Legal Education, 1995
- Broker/Dealer Compliance Systems and Supervision of Registered Representatives: Issues in Arbitration, 1994
- Mr. Louwagie has also provided private training to groups of securities brokers and arbitrators relating to securities arbitrations.