



Daniel M. Feeney

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Age: 39

Law School: University of Michigan Law School

Practice Area: Commercial Litigation

When Chicago attorneys need advice on professional responsibility and ethics, they know to turn to Daniel Feeney.

Feeney, an attorney with the Chicago law firm of Miller Shakman & Beem has built a thriving commercial litigation career. But he is also known for his expertise in ethical matters, professional responsibility and professional liability.

That is why peers such as Peter Woodford, partner and General Counsel of Chicago's Seyfarth Shaw seek Feeney's advice when they are dealing with particularly tricky ethical questions.

"My firm and its individual lawyers have developed a high degree of confidence in Dan's substantive expertise as well as his legal judgment and basic common sense," Woodford said. "He has had to deal with matters of extreme sensitivity and professional importance to the client/lawyers involved."

Feeney has displayed his commitment to the law, and to others, from early in his career. For instance, Feeney represented, on a pro bono basis, a death row inmate in a post-conviction proceeding and petition to the U.S. Supreme Court. He has also taken on

several cases for the American Civil Liberties Union, including a successful challenge to suburban Cicero's gang-loitering ordinance and a lawsuit against AT&T regarding privacy rights. That case focused on AT&T's role in eavesdropping without warrants and phone record searches.

This commitment extends to Feeney's desire to educate others about the nuances of the law. The American College of Emergency Physicians asked Feeney to provide its members

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with guidance on copyright law in the development of educational and training materials. Together, Feeney and Bradley Cohn with the Chicago law firm of Pattishall McAuliffe co-wrote "You Wrote it, But Who Owns it? An Overview of Copyright Law." Members of the college still refer to it regarding copyright matters.

At his current post, Feeney has developed a broad commercial practice, representing individual

partners and shareholders of closely held corporations, small- and middle-market businesses and large corporations. His clients have included such giants as GE Capital and JPMorgan Chase. He also represents large law firms in legal malpractice actions, and has taken the lead in defending against several multi-million-dollar claims.

In one case, Feeney defended JPMorgan Chase against a multi-million-dollar lender liability claim advanced by the Committee of Unsecured Creditors in an adversary proceeding in the Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District. After Feeney steered the case through discovery and presented his motion for summary judgment, the committee voluntarily dropped its claims.

"He has from the start exhibited exceptional legal and practical judgment in his approach to matters," said Christina Tchen, with the Chicago law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Floom, LLP. "He had this judgment as a very young lawyer. As a result, my clients and I came to rely on Dan to do things that were far beyond his years. He is also an extremely dedicated lawyer, who will go through brick walls for his clients. And he is unflappable. He has great poise under pressure, and is never rude or unkind even in the hottest of battles." *