



Abraham Y. (Avi) Skoff

SPECIAL COUNSEL - CHAIR, TRADE SECRETS, NONCOMPETE & UNFAIR COMPETITION LITIGATION GROUP; CO-CHAIR EMPLOYMENT LAW GROUP



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Abraham Y. (Avi) Skoff is Chair, Trade Secrets, Noncompete & Unfair Competition Litigation Group; Co-Chair Employment Law Group, and is a highly experienced litigator, trial lawyer, and employment attorney.

Avi has over twenty-five years' experience in practicing law, including involvement in a number of major, newsworthy cases. He served as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Civil Division, U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of New York, and focuses his practice on complex civil litigation, dispute avoidance counseling and employee mobility issues. Avi was named to the 2026 Lawdragon 500 Leading Corporate Employment Lawyers Guide, the 2025 Lawdragon List of the 500 Leading Litigators in America, and the 2025 Lawdragon List of 500 Leading Corporate Employment Lawyers.

Avi is an experienced trial lawyer, has represented parties in complex, multiple forum litigation, and has extensive experience in litigating injunctive proceedings. Avi has litigated cases in trial and appellate courts throughout the country and has a significant background in a broad range of practice areas, including litigation over trade secrets, noncompetition agreements, confidentiality agreements, employment and "business to business" competitive disputes, entertainment and advertising industry disputes, health care industry disputes and business matters, and toxic tort/product liability matters, among others.

Avi's experience includes matters such as high stakes litigation, counseling, and agreements in contexts including non-competition and non-solicitation contracts, trade secrets, nondisclosure agreements and breaches of joint venture agreements. Avi has extensive experience in designing noncompete and nondisclosure programs, and in aggressively enforcing the rights of his clients.

Avi is admitted in New York and New Jersey and has often served as counsel in other states on a pro hac vice basis. Avi is a member of the Sedona Conference Working Group on Trade Secrets, and was a Drafting Team member and Contributing Editor, on the Sedona Conference Commentary on Monetary Remedies in Trade Secret Litigation. He has been Co-Chair of the New York City Bar Association Trade Secrets Committee since 2021 and is a frequent speaker and CLE instructor on trade secret, noncompete and

Practices / Industries

- Litigation
- Trade Secrets, Noncompete & Unfair Competition Litigation
- Employment Law - Employment & Severance Agreements
- Employment Litigation
- Entertainment Litigation
- Intellectual Property
- Technology
- Criminal and White-Collar Litigation & Government Investigations
- Securities Enforcement, Arbitration and Litigation
- Intellectual Property, Entertainment/Media & Technology
- Entertainment & Media
- AI & Data Law
- Employment Law for AI & Data
- Protection of Proprietary Information and Cybersecurity
- Intellectual Property Litigation

damages issues and other litigation topics. Avi was co-chair and spoke at the 2022 - 2024 NYC Bar Association programs titled "Navigating the Law of Trade Secrets and Restrictive Covenants." He has spoken on panels at the Sedona Conference and in other venues.

In one of the first cases filed under the U.S. Defense of Trade Secrets Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1836, et seq., Avi and his team obtained a temporary restraining order and immediate injunctive relief in an employment related trade secret matter. In another case he was co-counsel to a corporate defendant accused of trade secret misappropriation in connection with the hiring of a new employee. Our client denied plaintiffs' claims, asserted an abuse of process counterclaim, and, after extensive litigation, obtained a multi-million-dollar verdict on its counterclaim.

In the healthcare area, Avi has been involved in extensive litigation and arbitration of commercial, managed care, employment and re-insurance matters, as well as transactional matters and administrative proceedings. He has represented business entities, healthcare organizations and individual providers, in the structuring and documentation of managed care, disease management, gainsharing and other agreements, in practice and partnership arrangements, in the litigation and arbitration of commercial, insurance and reinsurance related matters, and in disciplinary proceedings, licensure and credentialing disputes.

In the asbestos/toxic tort/mass tort area, Avi is national coordinating counsel for two defendants, and has represented several defendants in a total of hundreds of lawsuits, as well as coordinated the multi-state defense of other cases.

Avi has been at Moses & Singer since 2001.

Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

Education

- New York University School of Law (J.D.)
- Columbia College (A.B.)

Bar/Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey
- U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut
- New Jersey
- New York

Professional Affiliations

- Member, Sedona Conference. Working Group 12 on Trade Secrets. Contributing Editor, Drafting Team Member, *Sedona Conference Commentary on Monetary Remedies in Trade Secret Litigation*. Drafting Team Member, *Defining Protectable Trade Secrets*

- Member, Association of the Bar of the City of New York. Co-Chair, Trade Secret Committee
- Fellow, American Bar Foundation
- American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Committees on Intellectual Property Litigation, Commercial and Business Litigation and Business Tort Litigation; Past Chair, Second Circuit Subcommittee, and Business Defamation Subcommittee
- New York State Bar Association

Recognition

- Avi was named to the 2026 Lawdragon 500 Leading Corporate Employment Lawyers Guide.
- Avi was named to the 2026 Lawdragon List of 500 Leading Litigators in America.
- Avi was named to the 2025 Lawdragon List of 500 Leading Litigators in America.
- Avi was named to the 2025 Lawdragon List of 500 Leading Corporate Employment Lawyers in America.
- Avi is rated AV Preeminent™ by Martindale-Hubbell. He has been listed in New York Super Lawyers® since 2006. Chambers & Partners, the prestigious legal publisher and research firm, selected Avi as a "Recognised Practitioner" in its 2013 "Litigation General Commercial - New York" category. The recognitions conferred by Martindale-Hubbell, Super Lawyers, Chambers, and Lawdragon, are conferred by those organizations; the selection methodologies for each can be found, respectively, at: Martindale-Hubbell, Super Lawyers, Chambers, and Lawdragon. No aspect of these advertisements has been approved by the Court of Appeals of New York or the Supreme Court of New Jersey.
- Super Lawyers: 2006 - 2024.

Presentations

- Sedona Conference, Working Group 12, Trade Secrets, Dialogue Leader on Protecting Trade Secrets by Contract, Annual Meeting, October 2025, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Speaker, Fundamentals of Noncompetes 2025, Practising Law Institute, 2025
- Program Co-Chair and Speaker, Trade Secrets Symposium, New York City Bar Association, December 2024.
- Sedona Conference, Working Group 12, Trade Secrets, Panel member, Annual Meeting, September 2024, Phoenix, Arizona.
- Program Co-Chair, Navigating the Law of Trade Secrets and Restrictive Covenants, New York City Bar Association, December 2022.
- Sedona Conference, Working Group 12, Trade Secrets, Panel member, Annual Meeting, September 2022, Reston, Virginia.
- *"New York and California Trade Secrets Litigations: Differences and Best Practices"* New York City Bar Association Webinar, May 2022.
- Trade Secrets Basics and Measuring Damages in Trade Secrets Cases; Webinar, *Navigating the Law of Trade Secrets*, Association of the Bar of the City of New York, September, 2021.
- *"A Comprehensive Guide on Trade Secrets in Employment Litigation: Hot Buttons,"* Knowledge Group Seminar, July 1, 2021.
- The Knowledge Group's Trends and Developments In Trade Secrets: What Companies Must Know and Do Live Webcast, December 2020.
- *"Caselaw Synergies: Six Recent Trade Secrets Cases"*, The Sedona Conference, Working Group 12, Annual Meeting, November, 2020.
- Trade Secrets and Noncompete Agreements: Addressing Emerging Trends,

Developments, and Issues in 2020; Knowledge Group Seminar, July 14, 2020.

- Comprehensive Guide on Trade Secrets Protection: Tips and Strategies Explored; Knowledge Group Seminar, December 13, 2019.
- Non-Compete Agreements: Leveling Up Trial Techniques and Litigation Strategies; Knowledge Group Seminar, November 20, 2019.
- Determining and Calculating Damages in Trade Secrets Misappropriation Cases: Practical Guide in 2019; Knowledge Group Seminar, August 22, 2019.
- Trade Secrets Theft Uprising: What You Should Know and Do For Your Company's Protection, Knowledge Group Seminar, November 7, 2018.
- Restrictive Covenants & Confidentiality Agreements: What Is It and Why You Need to Know, Knowledge Group Seminar, September 26, 2018.
- New Considerations Under Employment and Antitrust Law When Creating Restrictive Covenants, Knowledge Group Seminar, July 28, 2017.
- *"Non-Competes and Trade Secrets: Protecting the Company's Assets,"* In-House Counsel CLE Seminar, Moses Singer, 2017
- "Restrictive Covenants and Non-Compete Agreements: Practical Guide for Employers," The Knowledge Group Seminar, 2016.
- *"Computer Forensics and eDiscovery,"* CLE Seminar, Moses Singer, 2016.
- *"Key Amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and N.Y. Discovery Rules,"* Moses Singer Litigation Department CLE, 2015.
- *"Protecting the Business Through Non-Competition Agreements,"* Actus Consulting Group's The 19th HR Seminar, 2012.
- *"Key Strategies for Drafting Enforceable Non-Competition Agreements and NDAs,"* Moses Singer CLE Program, 2012.
- *"Fraud and Abuse Issues Under Health Care Reform,"* and Moderator, "Understanding the Impact of Health Care Reform on Employers," Lorman Education Services, 2012.
- *"New York Restaurateurs: How Best to Avoid Wage & Hour Audits and Lawsuits,"* Hofstra Labor & Employment Law Journal and Moses Singer Symposium, 2012.
- "Trade Secret Litigation," ABA Litigation Section Conference, 2012.
- *"Recent Changes in Federal Practice: Removal and Other Issues,"* Moses Singer CLE Program, 2012.
- *"Protecting Company Secrets: Don't Let Your Key Assets Walk Out the Door,"* Moses Singer Webinar, 2011.
- *"Injunctive Relief In Business Tort Litigation,"* New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education, 2009.
- *"Not Just for Hackers Anymore? Use of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA) to Respond to Theft of Information,"* Intellectual Property Litigation Roundtable, American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, 2009.
- *"Trade Secrets,"* Moses Singer CLE Program, 2008.
- *"Protecting Your Business Through Injunctions,"* ReedLogic Video Seminar, 2008.
- *"Injunctive Relief in Business Tort Litigation National CLE Conference,"* Civil Litigation Program.
- Lecturer, *"Fraud and Abuse in Home HealthCare Telemedicine."*
- *"Federal Forfeiture Litigation,"* Attorney General's Advocacy Institute, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Publications

January 2, 2025

Avi Skoff Takes His Clients' Problems Personally: An Interview in Lawdragon's Lawyer Limelights

November 4, 2024

Abraham (Avi) Skoff's Article Titled "Protecting Client Assets When Noncompetes are Under Attack: Effective Alternatives" is Published in the New York Law Journal
New York Law Journal

August 26, 2024

FTC Non-Compete Rule is Held Invalid - a Nationwide Stay Prevents the Rule From Taking Effect
Moses Singer Client Alert

July 18, 2024

A Preliminary Ruling Strikes The FTC's Non-Compete Ban, But Leaves Employers With Significant Compliance Issues And Little Time
Moses Singer Client Alert

May 16, 2024

FTC Rule on Non-Competes
Moses Singer Client Alert

November 13, 2023

A Changing Landscape in Delaware on M&A Non-Compete Enforcement
Moses Singer Client Alert

October 4, 2023

Look Past Delaware for 'Sale of Business' Non-Compete Enforcement
Bloomberg Law

June 29, 2023

New York On Verge Of Adopting The Most Restrictive Law In The United States Banning Non-Competition Agreements

January 23, 2023

Possible Transactional Implications of the FTC Proposal to Ban Non-Competition Agreements in The United States

July 31, 2017

Tips for Filing a Trade Secret Action After Enactment of the DTSA
ABA Business Torts & Unfair Competition Section of Litigation

Representative Matters

Avi's experience includes:

- Litigation of fraud, unfair competition, entertainment, employment, healthcare, intellectual property, trade secret, non-compete, Computer Fraud and Abuse Act ("CFAA"), insurance, advertising, securities, toxic tort, product liability, regulatory and other matters.
- Litigation of restrictive covenant, duty of loyalty and employee mobility matters, in actions throughout the United States. Counseling and litigation on behalf of competitors in several industries, including software, medical and dental distribution, computerized equipment, advertising, financial services and others. Development of protective non-competition and trade secret programs; drafting of noncompetition and nondisclosure agreements. Multi-jurisdictional representation and co-ordination in large scale cases.
- National coordinating counsel for two defendants in the multistate asbestos litigation. Defense, trial and multi-state coordination of asbestos toxic/mass tort actions for several defendants. Served as national class action counsel for three asbestos defendants.
- Obtained seven figure recovery on behalf of corporate co-venturor, based on claims of unfair competition, breach of contract and unjust enrichment, after corporate co-venturor terminated business relationship.
- Led "due diligence" evaluations of noncompetition agreements in connection with mergers and acquisitions involving hundreds of employees and executives.
- Representation of performing artists in claims by and against agents and other business partners.
- Successfully represented producer and performing artist in defense of multimillion dollar claim by agent; lead trial counsel at full arbitration hearing which resulted in voiding agent's alleged agreement, defeat of agent's multimillion dollar claim, and voiding claims for future compensation, resulting in eight figure savings for client.
- Representation of advertising and media companies, in claims involving entertainment, media, business and employment matters.
- Representation of business entities and authors, in the litigation of defamation, intellectual property, false advertising, invasion of privacy, Lanham Act and other claims.
- Insurance and Reinsurance, litigation and arbitration. Coverage litigation. Healthcare related arbitration.
- Successfully obtained multimillion dollar recovery from reinsurer, on behalf of service provider to health insurance plan, following pursuit of litigation and arbitration.
- Successfully represented former board member of not for profit corporation, in judicial challenge to merger allegedly approved by organization's board. After extensive litigation, merger was cancelled by the parties.
- Litigation over the financial consequences of: breaches of fiduciary duties; criminal activity; the conduct of disloyal employees. Civil actions pertaining to diverted corporate opportunities, breaches of noncompetition and nondisclosure agreements, forged stock certificates, forged checks and endorsements, money laundering, federal forfeitures and other matters.

Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.