

EDUCATION

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW, Washington, D.C. May 2008
Juris Doctor, Cum Laude

GPA: 3.68 / 4.00 (Top 15%)

Honors & Activities: Administrative Law Review, Mock Trial Honor Society, Alvina Reckman-Myers Moot Court Competition, Gourley Trial Competition

AQUINAS COLLEGE, Grand Rapids, MI May 2005
Bachelor of Arts in History

Honors: Dean's List, National Dean's List, St. Thomas Aquinas Leadership Scholarship, Michigan Competitive Scholarship

EXPERIENCE

MARKO LAW, Detroit, MI December 2015 – Present
President

Marko Law is a personal injury and civil rights law firm, located in Downtown Detroit, that helps innocent victims pursue their legal rights.

Owner and managing Partner of the firm, in charge of overseeing all civil litigation and pre-suit cases, as well as personally handling the majority of the firm's civil litigation caseload; litigated numerous cases in favor of the client; brought several cases to verdict at trial, including helping the firm obtain an \$36,000,000 verdict against Genesee County (largest police brutality verdict in Michigan history), an \$11,600,000 verdict against the Michigan Department of Corrections (largest employment discrimination verdict in Genesee County history), and several other high profile cases; litigated in courtrooms across Michigan and the country.

THE RASOR LAW FIRM, Royal Oak, MI October 2011 – November 2015
Trial Attorney

The Razor Law Firm is a boutique full-service law firm, with emphasis on personal injury, employment litigation, civil rights, and business litigation.

Managed the firm's entire civil litigation caseload; litigated hundreds of cases in favor of the client; brought several cases to verdict at trial, including an employment discrimination cases against the Department of Corrections (over \$2,000,000 collected) and several other high profile cases; practiced in courtrooms across Michigan and the country; drafted and responded to appeals.

FIEGER, FIEGER, KENNEY, GIROUX & DANZIG, Southfield, MI August 2010 – October 2011
Trial Attorney

The Fieger Firm is one of Michigan's biggest and most successful plaintiff's firms.

Independently managed complex and high profile cases; engaged in all aspects of the litigation process including, but not limited to, authoring complaints, drafting and arguing motions in open court, drafting and responding to discovery, taking and defending depositions, engaging in settlement negotiations, and going to trial when necessary; involved in several multi-million and record setting verdicts.

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT, Lansing, MI
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly

August 2008 – August 2010

The Supreme Court is Michigan's court of last resort, consisting of seven justices. Each year, the Supreme Court receives over 2,000 applications for leave to appeal from litigants primarily seeking review of decisions by the Michigan Court of Appeals. In addition to its judicial duties, the Supreme Court is responsible for the general administrative supervision of all courts in the state.

Reviewed over a hundred applications for appeal each month; drafted opinions, orders, and memoranda under the direction of the Chief Justice on pending cases; prepared in advance of oral arguments by reviewing cases, conducting required legal research, summarizing important facts and arguments, and drafting memoranda; reviewed incoming motions, complaints, and petitions and advised the Chief Justice on appropriate action; drafted several groundbreaking legal decisions affecting the state of the law in Michigan.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SIXTH CIRCUIT COURT, Rockville, MD
Law Clerk to Judge Michael D. Mason

January 2008 – May 2008

Circuit courts in Maryland are trial courts with unlimited jurisdiction. They also sit as appellate courts when reviewing decisions of the district court and administrative agencies.

Researched and advised the Judge on case call or motion docket matters within an abbreviated time frame; ensured the parties were ready at the appropriate time and put the Judge on the bench; supervised the jury during trials; reviewed incoming motions, complaints, and petitions and advised the Judge on appropriate action; performed duties as required by the Judge to ensure proficiency in the court.

SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL, Washington, D.C.
Litigation Department Attorney

January 2008 – May 2008

Safari Club International's Litigation Department participates in federal and state court cases and regulatory matters throughout the world to support and protect hunting opportunities and wildlife conservation.

Worked across from Capitol Hill in the nation's capital and gained significant lobbying experience; participated in conservation litigation across the United States and indeed, around the world, including litigation at Yellowstone National Park; worked with local and federal wildlife agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency.

VARNUM, RIDDERING, SCHMIDT, & HOWLETT LLP, Grand Rapids, MI
Summer Associate

May 2007 – August 2007

Varnum is a nationally recognized business law firm, serving clients in a full range of practice areas.

Emphasis on defense side litigation work for business clients; attended and participated in trials, mediations, motions, and other litigation related fieldwork; researched various legal issues and drafted briefs; participated in the discovery process including identifying privileged documents, drafting interrogatories, requests for admissions, and requests for production of documents.

LAW, WEATHERS, & RICHARDSON, Grand Rapids, MI
Legal Intern

August 2003 – December 2003

Law Weathers is a mid-sized full service law firm.

Emphasis on transactional legal work and business development; developed a downtown area business plan to comply with city regulations; created a business portfolio to solicit potential

investors for an agricultural company; accompanied the prosecuting attorney for the City of Kentwood to court and participated in proceedings.

ADMISSIONS, AWARDS, & PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- ❖ Chair of the Civil Rights Section of the Detroit Bar Association;
- ❖ Appointed to Board of Directors (2020), Detroit Bar Association
- ❖ Named “Lifetime Fellow” (2020), Detroit Bar Association
- ❖ “President’s Award” (2018) for Civil Rights Work, Most Prestigious Award by Detroit Bar Association. This award recognizes an attorney whose early career has exhibited high standards of service to the profession, his or her clients, and the public.
- ❖ “Go To Lawyer” (2021) (Employment Law), by Michigan Lawyers Weekly. Only 20 lawyers received this recognition.
- ❖ Selected to serve on the State Bar Law Related Education & Public Outreach Committee
- ❖ Nationally recognized as a “Super Lawyer” (2012 – 2021)
- ❖ Appointed to Executive Committee, Michigan Association of Justice (MAJ)
- ❖ Appointed Case Evaluator, Wayne County Mediation Tribunal
- ❖ Admitted to practice:
 - Michigan;
 - Eastern and Western District of Michigan (federal);
 - Washington, D.C. (federal);
 - *Pro hac vice* in Southern District of Florida (federal);
 - Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals;
 - *Pro hac vice* in Colorado;
 - United States Supreme Court.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS / PRESENTATIONS

- ❖ “Spoliation of Evidence: The Trial Lawyer’s Secret Weapon” - Michigan Association for Justice Annual Convention, May 10, 2019.
- ❖ “\$11.6 Million Genesee Verdict – Overcoming Bias and Embracing Your Client’s Warts” – Michigan Association of Justice Winter Seminar, February 21, 2020.
- ❖ “Employment Discrimination- \$11,600,000 Verdict” – Nationwide Trial Lawyers Conference *Case Analysis*, December 1, 2020.
- ❖ “Federal Court §1983 Excessive Force Covid Trial”- Nationwide Trial Lawyers Conference *Case Analysis*, March 15, 2021.

PUBLISHED CASE LAW

- ❖ *Lowrey v LMPS & LMPJ, Inc*, 313 Mich App 500 (2015)
- ❖ *Cahoo v SAS Analytics Inc*, 912 F3d 887 (CA 6, 2019)
- ❖ *West v Dep’t of Natural Resources*, 2020 Mich. App. LEXIS 5069 (Ct App, Aug. 6, 2020)

REPRESENTATIVE MEDIA

- ❖ Egan, Paul. “**Jury Awards Husband and Wife Prison Employees \$11.4M in Racial Discrimination Case.**” *Detroit Free Press*, September 9, 2019.
<https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2019/09/09/jury-awards-prison-employees-11-4-m-race-discrimination-suit/2268307001/>
- ❖ Kaur, Harmeet. “**After One Man Had a Heart Attack, 911 Calls Went Unanswered. Now his Family is Suing for \$25 Million.**” *CNN*, February 20, 2019.
<https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/20/us/michigan-family-911-dispatcher-lawsuit/index.html>
- ❖ Nicquel Terry. “**Lawsuit: Man Attacked After Paying Ticket With Pennies.**” *The Detroit News*, November 29, 2017. <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2017/11/29/royal-oak-man-attacked-paying-pennies/108143662/>
- ❖ Deanna Hackney. “**Lawsuit Claims Teacher Taped Special-Needs Woman’s Mouth Shut.**” *CNN*, November 3, 2017. <https://www.cnn.com/2017/11/03/health/teacher-mouth-shut-punishment-trnd/index.html>
- ❖ Dame, Kelly. “**Suit Filed in Edenville Twp. Party Death.**” *Midland Daily News*, June 3, 2011.
http://www.ourmidland.com/news/article_136dcdbdc-8dfd-11e0-b44d-001cc4c002e0.html
- ❖ Snell, Robert. “**Motorist Sues Detroit Gang Squad Officers over Videotaped Beating.**” *The Detroit News*, June 30, 2011. <http://detnews.com/article/20110630/METRO/106300453>
- ❖ “**Members of the DPD Gang Unit Facing Federal Complaint over Encounter in Gas Station Parking Lot.**” Television Interview by Glenda Lewis. *WXYZ ABC Channel 7*, June 30, 2011.
<http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/region/detroit/3-members-of-the-dpd-gang-unit-facing-federal-complaint-over-encounter-in-gas-station-parking-lot>
- ❖ Snell, Robert. “**Officer’s Actions Cost City \$677,000.**” *The Detroit News*, July 25, 2011, Front Page.
- ❖ Pardo, Steve. “**Ex-Medic Sues Detroit Cops.**” *The Detroit News*, August 2, 2011.
<http://detnews.com/article/20110802/METRO01/108020369>
- ❖ Pardo, Steve. “**Public Gains Access to Depositions in Detroit Girl’s Death.**” *The Detroit News*, September 2, 2011. <http://detnews.com/article/20110902/METRO01/109020382>
- ❖ “**Civil Trial Involving Death of 7-Year-Old-Girl Allegedly Shot By Police**” Radio Interview by Ken Rogulski. *WJR News/Talk Radio*, September 2, 2011.
- ❖ Ashenfelter, David. “**Detroit Police Accused of 2nd Assault at MGM Grand Detroit Casino.**” *Detroit Free Press*, September 29, 2011.
<http://www.freep.com/article/20110929/NEWS01/110929029/Detroit-police-accused-2nd-assault-MGM-Grand-Detroit-casino?odyssey=nav%7Chead>
- ❖ “**Detroit Man Files a Lawsuit Against Police Claiming he was Beaten at the MGM Grand Casino.**” Television Interview by Glenda Lewis. *WXYZ ABC Channel 7*, September 29, 2011.
<http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/region/detroit/detroit-man-files-a-lawsuit-against-police-claiming-he-was-beaten-and-jailed-for-no-reason>
- ❖ Damron, Gina. “**Girl’s Father is Arraigned on Charges Related to Raid.**” *Detroit Free Press*, October 6, 2011, 7A. <http://www.freep.com/article/20111006/NEWS01/110060483/Girl-s-father-arraigned-charges-related-raid?odyssey=mod%7Cnewswell%7Ctext%7CFRONTPAGE%7Cs>
- ❖ Damron, Gina. “**Lawsuit Accuses Michigan Department of Corrections of Improperly Supervising Parolees.**” *Detroit Free Press*, October 17, 2012.
<http://www.freep.com/article/20121017/NEWS03/310170069/Lawsuit-accuses-Michigan-Department-of-Corrections-of-improperly-supervising-parolees>
- ❖ “**Ronald Talley, Arizona Cardinals DE, Accused of Bar Attack.**” *Associated Press*, July 28, 2012.
<http://www.nfl.com/news/story/09000d5d82adfb45/article/ronald-talley-arizona-cardinals-de-accused-of-bar-attack>

- ❖ Ashenfelter, David. **“Oakland County Errors Make Least Egregious Sex Offenders Look Like Predators Suit Says.”** *Detroit Free Press*, May 4, 2012. <http://www.freep.com/article/20120504/NEWS06/205040447/Oakland-County-errors-make-least-egregious-sex-offenders-look-like-predators-suit-says>
- ❖ **“Man Injured From Flying Debris Shooting Out of Trash Compactor, Suffers Fractured Skull.”** *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*, May 11, 2012.
- ❖ **“Family Sues Police Over Killing of Dog in Fenced Yard”**, *WXYZ Detroit*, August 31, 2020, <https://www.wxyz.com/news/family-sues-over-police-over-killing-of-dog-in-fenced-yard-officer-receives-hundreds-of-threats>
- ❖ Fonger, Ron. **“Flint Settles Lawsuit Against Police For Handcuffing 7-Year-Old At School”**, *M Live*, August 14, 2020. https://www.mlive.com/news/flint/2020/08/flint-settles-lawsuit-against-police-for-handcuffing-7-year-old-at-school.html?fbclid=IwAR2NLuxte4gDTewclwp5N-2jMK61yeBhrMHyYJwFrqfiPC4imTV_WORvx4g
- ❖ Associated Press. **“2 Snowmobilers Win Key Decision In Lawsuit Against Michigan DNR”** *Detroit Free Press*, August 9, 2020. <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2020/08/09/2-snowmobilers-win-key-decision-lawsuit-against-michigan-dnr/3330159001/>
- ❖ **“Detroit Mom Wants Answers After 7-year-old Son Has Part of His Finger Severed at School”** Television Interview by Kim Craig. *WXYZ ABC Channel 7*, July 3, 2018, <https://www.wxyz.com/news/7-year-old-has-part-of-his-finger-severed-at-school-mom-wants-answers>
- ❖ **“Lawsuit Claims Royal Oak McDonald’s Served Glass in Frappuccino”** *Click On Detroit*, December 6, 2011, <https://www.clickondetroit.com/news/2011/12/07/lawsuit-claims-royal-oak-mcdonalds-served-glass-in-frappuccino/>
- ❖ **“Civil Rights Attorney Johnathan Marko Takes on Detroit Police Department for Beating at MGM Grand Casino”** *WXYZ ABC Channel 7*, April 9, 2012, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-F6K1st5Yk>
- ❖ **“Former Melvindale Police Officer Suing Department, Says He was Fired for Giving Info to FBI”** *Fox 2 Detroit*, September 13, 2019, <https://www.fox2detroit.com/news/former-melvindale-police-officer-suing-department-says-he-was-fired-for-giving-info-to-fbi>
- ❖ Ingrid Kelly. **“Detroit Athletic Club Sued by Photographer for Sexual Harassment”** *Fox 2 Detroit*, December 19, 2019, <https://www.fox2detroit.com/news/detroit-athletic-club-sued-by-photographer-for-sexual-harassment>
- ❖ Cole Waterman. **“Employee Sues Catholic Diocese of Saginaw, Claiming Retaliation for Reporting Sex-Abuse Complaint”** *M Live*, May 12, 2020, https://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw-bay-city/2020/05/employee-sues-catholic-diocese-of-saginaw-claiming-retaliation-for-reporting-sex-abuse-complaint.html?fbclid=IwAR28beciaiA7ENpBe8H7LhGfEXwBNJ4PPJz_1Oa6pBlo4KrbqhseKLDVgEA
- ❖ Darren Cunningham. **“Police: Teen Dies After Being Restrained at Youth Home”** *WXYZ Detroit*, May 5, 2020, <https://www.wxyz.com/news/police-teen-dies-after-being-restrained-at-youth-home?fbclid=IwAR2SUGAD45RoYoU8KiZVLI6ajyvOpfMCUz3vfVaGVnIEuS24W1hRMiiGjzU>
- ❖ Mariam Marini and Frank Witsil. **“Midland Homeowners Sue Dam Owners After Flooding, Seek Damages for Property Damages”** *Detroit Free Press*, May 23, 2020, <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2020/05/23/homeowners-sue-dam-owners-compensation-flood-damage/5248540002/>
- ❖ James Crowley. **“Staff Members Restrained Michigan Teen Who Later Died With Weight on Chest: Report”** *Newsweek*, June 20, 2020, <https://www.newsweek.com/teen-died-after-facility-staff-member-sat-him-report-mdhhs-1512336>
- ❖ Taylor Romine. **“16-year-old Boy Goes Into Cardiac Arrest and Dies After Staff at Residential Facility Restrain Him, Lawsuit Says”** *CNN*, June 23, 2020, <https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/23/us/16-year-old-restraint-death-michigan-trnd/index.html>

- ❖ **“Two More Join Racial Discrimination Lawsuit Against Romulus Manufacturer”** Television Interview with Jessica Dupnack, *Fox 2 Detroit*, August 21, 2020, <https://www.fox2detroit.com/video/843109?fbclid=IwAR2EwQjfzAMbCAebUIWsGMrSijJQ2-tWX82ajUkEo9-ZnXzsyLuY6ouUOKs>
- ❖ James Crowley. **“Former Michigan Trucking Company Employee Sues After Complaining of Noose Hanging in Garage”** *Newsweek*, August 15, 2020, <https://www.newsweek.com/former-employee-lawsuit-against-company-noose-hanging-garage-1525343?fbclid=IwAR0X40VGbxH4bAfK4Tdao27kpqvd-pI1SbvFUh9VfVvKH1uvM3eXQmRqRdY>
- ❖ Kimberly Craig. **“Family Sues Police Over Killing of Dog in Fenced Yard; Officer Receives Hundreds of Threats”** *WXYZ ABC Channel 7*, August 31, 2020, <https://www.wxyz.com/news/family-sues-over-police-over-killing-of-dog-in-fenced-yard-officer-receives-hundreds-of-threats>
- ❖ **“Lawsuit: Security Vide Shows Assistant Principal Body-Slam Detroit Student”** *WWJ News Radio 950*, July 9, 2018, <https://wwjnewsradio.radio.com/articles/lawsuit-security-video-shows-assistant-principal-body-slam-detroit-student>
- ❖ Dave Bartkowiak Jr. **“District: Family Waited Year to Report Ann Arbor Teacher Accused of Taping Student’s Mouth Shut”** *Click on Detroit*, November 2, 2017, <https://www.clickondetroit.com/news/2017/11/02/district-family-waited-year-to-report-ann-arbor-teacher-accused-of-taping-students-mouth-shut/>
- ❖ **“Family Sues Livonia Nursing Home Over Elder Abuse”** *WXYZ ABC Channel 7*, March 5, 2018, <https://www.wxyz.com/news/region/wayne-county/family-sues-livonia-nursing-home-over-elder-abuse-that-was-caught-on-camera>
- ❖ Harmeet Kaur. **“After One Man Had a Heart Attack, 911 Calls Went Unanswered. Now His Family is Suing for \$25 Million”** *CNN*, February 20, 2019, <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/20/us/michigan-family-911-dispatcher-lawsuit/index.html>
- ❖ Jim Kierzner. **“Jury Finds Racism is Alive and Well in Michigan State Prison Workplaces, Awards \$11.3 Million”** *WXYZ ABC Channel 7*, September 10, 2019, <https://www.wxyz.com/news/jury-finds-racism-is-alive-and-well-in-michigan-state-prison-workplaces-awards-11-3-million>
- ❖ Paul Egan. **“Prison Managers Sue, Allege Corrections Department Wrecked Their Careers”** *Detroit Free Press*, January 22, 2020, <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2020/01/22/michigan-prison-managers-rohrig-mccabe-sue-wrongful-firings/4526418002/>
- ❖ **“Lesbian Couple Sues Michigan Dept of Corrections Claiming Years of Harassment”** *Fox 2 Detroit*, March 9, 2020, <https://www.fox2detroit.com/news/lesbian-couple-sues-michigan-dept-of-corrections-claiming-years-of-harassment>
- ❖ Robert Snell. **“Macomb County Jail Doctor Traded Candy for Sex, Lawsuit Alleges”** *The Detroit News*, April 27, 2020, <https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/macomb-county/2020/04/27/macomb-county-jail-doctor-traded-candy-sex-lawsuit-alleges/3034777001/>
- ❖ Lindsay Schnell. **“Foster Care teen’s Death Draws Scrutiny to Group Home Outbreaks: Who is Looking Out for These Children?”** *USA Today*, May 15, 2020, <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/05/15/coronavirus-foster-care-death-draws-scrutiny-group-home-outbreaks/5196297002/>
- ❖ Cole Waterman. **“Ex Detective Claims He Was Fired For Investigating Catholic Sex Abuse Case in Saginaw County”** *M Live*, May 28, 2020, <https://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw-bay-city/2020/05/ex-detective-claims-he-was-fired-for-investigating-catholic-sex-abuse-case-in-saginaw-county.html?fbclid=IwAR1Jy84x2TdiZyQOGrxECZnA7w3RYe4fXo7a8zhFwEJfkb8XRfqwCr5f24>
- ❖ Miriam Marini. **“Attorney Compares Michigan Teen’s Death at Kalamazoo Facility to George Floyd’s”**, *Detroit Free Press*, June 22, 2020,

<https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2020/06/22/attorney-compares-teens-death-kalamazoo-facility-george-floyds/3233646001/>

- ❖ Barton Deiters. “**Company Ignored Racism, Punished Complainants**” *Wood TV 8*, August 25, 2020, <https://www.woodtv.com/news/kent-county/lawsuit-company-ignored-racism-punished-complainants/>
- ❖ Paul Egan. “**Prison Supervisor who Admitted Using N-Word Facing More Accusations of Racism**” *Detroit Free Press*, October 2, 2020, <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2020/10/02/prison-racism-capt-frank-sawyer/5886004002/>