MELAND | BUDWICK

Eric Ostroff



Managing Partner and Chair, Trade Secrets and IP Group

Phone: 305.358.6363 | Direct: 305.375.6090
Fax: 305.358.1221
Email: eostroff@melandbudwick.com
Webpage | LinkedIn

Practice Areas:

- Commercial Litigation
- Health Law
- Trade Secrets & Intellectual Property
- Trial Practice

Eric is recognized as a thought leader on trade secrets."

– Chambers USA

Eric Ostroff focuses his practice on trade secrets and noncompete litigation. Chambers USA notes that Eric "wins praise for his extensive experience in commercial disputes, with a notable expertise in trade secrets cases" and describes him as an attorney who "delivers outstanding service and has outstanding ability." Eric is the only attorney ranked by Chambers USA in both Florida commercial litigation and intellectual property law.

Eric helps businesses protect their trade secrets and proprietary information, both before and during litigation. He works with companies to identify and protect this critical information. And he has more than two decades of experience representing corporate and individual plaintiffs and defendants in trade secrets and noncompete

actions throughout Florida and nationwide.

Eric's trade secrets practice has earned national recognition. He serves on the Steering Committee of The Sedona Conference Working Group on Trade Secrets, a nonpartisan think tank that gathers preeminent experts to publish consensus commentaries on cutting-edge legal issues. He also teaches Trade Secrets Law at the University of Miami School of Law and speaks and writes frequently on the topic, including on his blog, Protecting Trade Secrets.

Businesses and individuals trust Eric to protect their interests in courts and arbitrations across the country, often in bet-the-company cases. In addition to trade secrets disputes, he regularly litigates a broad range of business disputes, including cases involving breaches of contract, business torts, officer and director fiduciary duties, business defamation, civil conspiracy, unfair competition, false advertising, real estate, and deceptive and unfair trade practices. He has successfully tried many cases to verdict before judges, juries, and arbitration panels.

Eric has been quoted on business litigation and trade secrets issues in major media outlets, including the New York Times, Bloomberg, Reuters, and the Miami Herald, and is frequently invited to speak throughout the country about trade secrets, business litigation, and the use of AI in litigation.

Before joining Meland Budwick, Eric practiced for five years at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, where he was part of the Employment Litigation and Complex Commercial Litigation groups.

EDUCATION

- University of Miami School of Law, J.D., summa cum laude, 2004
  - University of Miami Law Review
  - Order of the Coif
- Emory University, B.A., Political Science, 2001

MEMBERSHIPS

- University of Miami School of Law, Adjunct Professor, Trade Secrets Law
- The Sedona Conference Working Group on Trade Secrets, Steering Committee

Member, Drafting Team Co-Chair, and Dialogue Leader
- American Intellectual Property Law Association, Vice Chair of the Trade Secret Law Committee and Trademark Litigation Committee Member
- Section of Litigation, American Bar Association
- Trial Lawyers Section, The Florida Bar
- Member, Dade County Bar Association

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Florida
- Southern District of Florida
- Middle District of Florida
- Northern District of Florida
- United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

AWARDS & RANKINGS

- *Chambers USA Guide*, General Commercial Litigation, 2017-2026
- *Chambers USA Guide*, Intellectual Property, 2021-2026
- Legal 500's Miami Elite, Tier 1, Commercial and International Disputes, 2025-2026
- WIPR, Leaders 2026 in Trade Secrets and IP, 2026
- Florida Trend Legal Elite, Notable Intellectual Property Attorneys, 2026
- Florida Trend Legal Elite, Notable Managing Partner, 2023-2026
- Miami-Dade Bar, Circle of Excellence – Intellectual Property, 2025
- WIPR, USA Trade Secrets Rankings, 2024
- Lawdragon, 500 Leading Global IP Lawyers, 2025-2026
- Lawdragon, 500 Leading Litigators in America, 2025, 2027
- The Best Lawyers in America, Litigation – Intellectual Property, 2025-2027
- Daily Business Review Florida Legal Awards, Distinguished Leaders, 2022
- AV-rated, preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell
- Legal Services of Greater Miami, Pro Bono Honoree, 2019
- Lawyers for Children America's John Edward Smith Child Advocacy Award, 2006
- Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP's Pro Bono Service Award, 2005, 2006, 2007

PUBLICATIONS & PANELS

- Panelist, “AI and Trade Secrets,” PLI’s Advanced Trade Secrets 2026, October 2026
- Panelist, “The First 48 Hours: Seeking or Defending Against TROs and Preliminary Injunctions,” PLI’s Noncompetes and Restrictive Covenants 2026, October 2026
- “Non-Disclosure Agreement Drafting Must Account for AI’s Risks,” Bloomberg Law, June 2026
- “Cos. Must Update Protocols To Protect Trade Secrets From AI,” Law360, April 2026
- Speaker, 2026 Trade Secret Summit, American Intellectual Property Law Association, April 2026
- “Florida Chapter” in *Noncompete Agreements and Related Restrictive Covenants,* Practising Law Institute, March 2026
- Speaker, 2026 Trade Secrets and Restrictive Covenants Symposium, Ohio State Bar Association, February 2026
- Speaker, “Artificial Intelligence and Ethics: Emerging Issues,” 35th Annual Bankruptcy Skills Workshop, May 2025
- “Protecting Trade Secrets” blog protectingtradesecrets.com
- “Guarding Global Secrets: Motorola’s DTSA Showdown,” ICLR 2025 Symposium, February 2025
- Speaker, “Secrets to Seeking or Defending Against TROs and Preliminary Injunctions,” PLI’s 2024 Noncompetes and Restrictive Covenants Conference, September 2024
- The Sedona Conference, Protecting Trade Secrets in Litigation About Them, March 2022
- “Lessons for Employers from Obama’s Push Back Against Noncompetes,” Daily Business Review, December 2016
- “The ‘George Costanza Defense’ to Stealing Trade Secrets, Entrepreneur,” October 2014
- “Avoid These 6 Mistakes When Safeguarding Proprietary Information,” Entrepreneur, June 2014
- “Seeking Trade Secret Protection? Don’t Rely on a Label.”, Entrepreneur, May 2014
- “5 Ways to Shrink the Threat of an Employee’s Exit to Proprietary Info,” Entrepreneur, April 2014

- “Enforcing Noncompete and Nonsolicitation Agreements in Florida,” Daily Business Review, December 2010

Representative Matters

Trade Secrets & IP

Obtained an eight-figure judgment following a JAMS arbitration on behalf of a national staffing company against its former president.

Obtained a jury verdict for a large commercial laundry in a trade secrets, FDUTPA, and tortious interference trial.

Represented Glenn Beck, Mercury Radio Arts, Inc., and TheBlaze, Inc. in multiple litigations in Texas and Delaware against the companies’ former CEO for violating a restrictive covenant and breaching his fiduciary duty.

Represented nationwide healthcare provider in multiple litigations to protect trade secrets and proprietary information.

Represented a professional sports league in a trademark infringement, false advertising, and unfair competition action in the Southern District of New York, brought by a competing sports league.

Represented large insurance company in litigation against former employees for stealing trade secrets. Obtained an emergency injunction.

Represented national private jet charter company in trade-secrets action brought by a national fractional-share jet company in the Southern District of Ohio.

Represented leading provider of secondary-market sports and event ticket services in trade-secrets action against the company’s former CTO.

Represented large real estate brokerage in trade-secrets litigation brought by national brokerage in the Southern District of New York.

Represented UK-based manufacturer of proprietary construction materials in trade-secrets action against a former business partner.

Represented former CEO of a multibillion-dollar insurance company in restrictive covenant litigation with his former employer.

Represented medical supplies company in litigation and arbitration asserting misappropriation-of-trade-secrets claims against a former business partner.

Represented electronics company in action brought by a competitor asserting misappropriation of trade secrets.

Represented large real estate brokerage in litigation against former salespeople for violating restrictive covenant.

Represented an international security company in non-compete dispute with a competitor.

Defended healthcare company against claims of trademark infringement.

Commercial Litigation

Obtained a full defense judgment following a bench trial in a real estate litigation in Orange County, FL where more than $80 million was at issue.

Successfully defended against a $40 million claim based on the theft of crypto assets in a JAMS arbitration in New York.

Obtained a jury verdict for a large commercial laundry in a trade secrets, FDUTPA, and tortious interference trial.

Following a bench trial, obtained a multimillion dollar judgment against guarantors in a complex guarantor deficiency action.

Obtained summary judgment in a complex dispute involving condominium association governance on Fisher Island.

Obtained a complete defense victory at summary judgment on behalf of a healthcare technology company in an action brought by its former president

seeking eight figures in damages; thereafter settled our counterclaims.

Obtained dismissal of a nationwide class action asserting more than $40 million in claims based on a crypto hack.

Obtained eight-figure settlement on behalf of investor who brought breach-of-fiduciary-duty and other claims against those who controlled the investment entity.

Represented 40% owners of international wine company in litigation against management asserting breach of fiduciary duty and appointment of a receiver.

Represented private equity company in multi-state litigation with another private equity company asserting breach of fiduciary duty and other claims.

Represented investors in national cannabis company in action against management asserting breaches of fiduciary duty.

Represented investor defrauded out of $10 million investment in litigation against the investment sponsor/manager.

Represented purchaser of a for-profit college in litigation against the seller for beaching the purchase and sale agreement. Obtained summary judgment.

Represented a developer in a class action brought by unit owners in a downtown Miami high-rise condominium.

Represented minority shareholder of a franchisor in litigation against the majority shareholders for breach of fiduciary duty.

Represented note purchaser in commercial foreclosure action, obtaining foreclosure judgment. Later secured a $5 million judgment against the guarantors following trial in Miami-Dade Complex Business Court.

Represented art purchaser in litigation against Art Basel art dealer asserting fraud claims.

Represented Isle of Dreams, the owner of real property in Miami, Florida, in contentious state court foreclosure proceedings against Sunbeam Realty and Sunbeam Television which include significant counterclaims.

Represented the owner of commercial property on International Drive in Orlando, Florida in a commercial foreclosure action. Obtained a favorable workout that allowed our client to keep the property.

Represented the owner of a retail shopping center in Pinecrest, Florida in a commercial foreclosure action. Negotiated a highly favorable settlement that allowed our client to keep the property.

Represented a large commercial laundry in litigation with Miami-Dade County over water and sewer services.

Represented the owner of commercial property in downtown Key West in multiple foreclosure actions and obtained a favorable workout that enabled the client to keep its properties.

Represented 50% property owner in arbitration against co-owner for breaching operating agreement.

Represented law firm in breach-of-contract dispute with former attorneys.

Represented property owner in multimillion-dollar dispute with insurance company over damage to the property.

Successfully defended various businesses against claims under the Fair Labor Standards Act and Americans With Disabilities Act.

Retained by large litigation funding company to perform due diligence on potential funding cases.

Represented Glenn Beck, Mercury Radio Arts, Inc., and TheBlaze, Inc. in multiple litigations in Texas and Delaware against the companies' former CEO for violating a restrictive covenant and breaching his fiduciary duty.

Obtained an eight-figure judgment following a JAMS arbitration on behalf of a national staffing company against its former president.

Represented nationwide healthcare provider in multiple litigations to protect trade secrets and proprietary information.

Trial Practice

Obtained an eight-figure judgment following a JAMS arbitration on behalf of a national staffing company against its former president.

Obtained a full defense judgment following a bench trial in a real estate litigation in Orange County, FL where more than $80 million was at issue.

Successfully defended against a $40 million claim based on the theft of crypto assets in a JAMS arbitration in New York.

Obtained a jury verdict for a large commercial laundry in a trade secrets, FDUTPA, and tortious interference trial.

Following a bench trial, obtained a multimillion dollar judgment against guarantors in a complex guarantor deficiency action.

Obtained highly favorable mid-trial settlement in adversary proceeding in bankruptcy court involving eight-figure breach-of-contract action against lender.

Bankruptcy and Restructuring

Represented Lexi Development Company, Inc., the owner of the Lexi condominium mixed use development, in its Chapter 11 bankruptcy, in which the Debtor successfully eliminated default interest, avoiding foreclosure and preserving equity for the benefit of the Debtor's principals.

Testimonials

"Eric is a highly skilled professional with a keen analytical approach, allowing him to clearly identify and address issues."

– Chambers USA 2025

"He is excellent; he is one of the best lawyers I have dealt with. He is

personable and he knows his stuff."

– Chambers USA 2025

"I am highly impressed with the exceptional legal services provided by Eric. His expertise, unwavering dedication and thorough understanding of the intricacies of the law truly stand out. He has exhibited a remarkable ability to handle complex legal matters with poise and precision"

– Chambers USA 2024

"He is extremely credible and sharp."

– Chambers USA 2024

"Eric has a brilliant mind. He is able to analyze legal problems from a business perspective, in a way that is really valuable, and he's also extremely efficient."

– Chambers USA 2023

"Eric delivers outstanding service and has outstanding ability."

– Chambers USA 2023

"Eric provides timely responses and is really able to cut through to the essence of things."

– Chambers USA 2023

"Eric is an excellent lawyer who combines business savvy with incredible legal acumen and is very aware of commercial issues."

– Chambers USA 2022

“He has a razor-sharp mind and gets to the heart of the issue without wasting time.”

– Chambers USA 2021

“He is incredibly knowledgeable and very responsive.”

– Chambers USA 2021

“He is able to very quickly get his head around highly complex matters and frame them legally in a manner that is very persuasive.”

– Chambers USA 2021

“He is very responsive and his work product is of incredibly impressive quality.”

– Chambers USA 2021

“I always say that an outstanding attorney is one that not only delivers the technical side of the case, but also is able to connect with the client in a much deeper client/attorney – this is the case with Eric.”

– Chambers USA 2020

News

- Trade secrets authority and noncompete litigator: Eric Ostroff, J.D. ‘04 (Nov. 06, 2026)
- Eric Ostroff Named to World IP Review Leaders 2026 (Oct. 20, 2026)
- Eric Ostroff Appointed Vice Chair of AIPLA’s Trade Secret Law Committee (Oct. 15, 2026)
- Four Meland Budwick Partners Listed in the 2027 Lawdragon 500 Leading Litigators in America (Sep. 17, 2026)
- Eric Ostroff Named Among Florida Trend’s Legal Elite Notable Intellectual Property Attorneys (Sep. 02, 2026)

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