

Edward C. Barnidge

Partner

Ed Barnidge focuses on commercial and complex civil litigation in federal and state courts across the country, including trials, arbitrations, and regulatory matters. He has represented both plaintiffs and defendants in many high-dollar disputes.

Ed has particular experience in disputes involving commercial contracts, financial instruments, federal and state False Claims Acts, franchise matters, government licensing, and retail financing. In addition, he has conducted numerous internal investigations.

Ed chairs the firm's Class Action practice.

Ed graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1993. He received his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif, before clerking for Judge Sandra Brown Armstrong of the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of California. He joined Williams & Connolly in 2000.

Representative Experience

Though all cases vary and none is predictive, Ed's experience includes:

- Successfully defending Hong Kong company in a securities case tried in the New York Supreme Court (Commercial Part)
- Successfully obtaining acquittal of journalist tried for crimes in North Dakota
- Successfully defending against claim of trade secrets misappropriation by software vendor
- Defending employers against class and representative wage-and-hour claims
- Defeating on summary judgment a nine-figure claim by the Lehman estate under a derivatives contract
- Successfully prosecuting a high-stakes breach-of-contract claim on behalf of a leading financial institution
- Successfully defending client at trial against multimillion dollar claims involving commercial real estate project
- Representing clients with environmental, public fisc, and



ebarnidge@wc.com

D 202-434-5340

Education

University of Virginia School of Law,
J.D., 1999: Order of the Coif
University of Notre Dame, B.A., 1993:
Phi Beta Kappa

Practice Focus

Civil Litigation and Trial Practice
Class Action
Commercial Litigation
Criminal Defense and Government
Investigations
Arbitration
International Disputes

Admissions

District of Columbia
Virginia
United States Court of Appeals for the
Fourth and Ninth Circuits
United States District Court for the
District of Maryland, Eastern District
of Virginia, and District of Columbia

cannibalization claims in connection with a high-profile government licensure program

- Defending client against claims by government and qui tam claimants under state and federal False Claims Acts
- Vindicating on appeal a franchisor's right to terminate a long-time franchisee
- Leading internal investigation of alleged product defect in computing industry
- Defeating a claim for class representation brought by retail consumers against a high-profile dealership in a national automotive dealership chain
- Obtaining a dismissal in a putative class action involving purported financial fraud
- Leading internal investigations of claims of alleged retail financing frauds
- Lead attorney in arbitration of consumer claim involving purported retail financing fraud