



Shawn Irving

Partner, Disputes

Toronto

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Bar Admission: Ontario, 2004

Areas of Expertise

- [Transportation and Logistics](#)
- [Private Equity](#)
- [Banking and Financial Services](#)
- [Power and Utilities](#)
- [Infrastructure](#)
- [Food and Beverage](#)
- [Disputes](#)
- [Private Equity and Investment Fund Disputes](#)
- [Corporate and Securities Disputes](#)
- [Domestic and International Arbitration](#)
- [Insolvency and Restructuring](#)
- [Corporate and Commercial Disputes](#)
- [Capital Markets Regulatory Enforcement](#)
- [Class Action Defence](#)
- [Risk Management and Crisis Response](#)

Shawn is an experienced commercial litigator who focuses on delivering value to Osler’s clients in their high-stakes business disputes. Whether acting on a complex multi-jurisdictional class action, a contested dispute over the dissolution of a private company, or the restructuring of an insolvent company, Shawn tirelessly advocates for those he represents while remaining committed to obtaining the best practical results.

Shawn acts predominately for corporate, banking and other financial sector clients, and has significant expertise in the insolvency and restructuring and private equity and investment fund space. He regularly represents clients in securities, commercial and insolvency proceedings, as well as in investigations and enforcement proceedings involving various securities regulators. Some of Shawn’s recent non-confidential mandates have included representing Nieuport Aviation in obtaining a judgment of over \$130 million against Porter Airlines; defending Manulife Financial in several multi-jurisdictional class actions; representing certain former directors and officers of Wayland Group in a proposed class action; representing Corus Entertainment in its successful response to an OSC application; successfully defending a shareholder rights plan; and defending Royal Bank of Canada in a class action brought by retail investors following the collapse of a major offshore investment fund. Shawn has also acted as debtor counsel in numerous *Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act* (CCAA) and *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* proceedings, including CanWest, Target Canada, Sears Canada, Just Energy, Bondfield, Brooks Brothers, Comark, Ted Baker, Phoenix Brands, Hollander Sleep Products and SFP Canada d/b/a Papyrus. He has also acted in several high-profile receivership proceedings.

Personally invested in identifying innovative solutions for clients, Shawn is a current member of Osler’s Innovation Council, where he works to drive efficiencies, predictability, and lower costs for clients. Shawn has supported the development and execution of Osler’s adoption of cutting-edge technology in the legal space, including AI, service delivery improvements, and the broad and creative use of Alternative Fee Arrangements

Shawn was named a “Rising Star” by Lexpert magazine in 2014, a “Litigation Lawyer to Watch” in 2015, a “Future Star” by Benchmark Litigation, and is recognized in the area of Corporate and Commercial Litigation by Best Lawyers in Canada.

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## Awards and Recognition

- **Best Lawyers in Canada:** Recognized in Corporate and Commercial Litigation
- **Benchmark Litigation Canada:** Recognized in Dispute Resolution (Future Star)
- **IFLR 1000: The Guide to the World’s Leading Financial Law Firms:** Recognized in Restructuring and Insolvency (Notable Practitioner)
- **Legal 500:** Recognized as a Leading Individual in Dispute Resolution: Ontario
- **Thomson Reuters:** “Stand-out Lawyer”
- **Lexpert Magazine:** Recognized as a “Rising Star” (2014) and “Litigation Lawyer to Watch” (2015)

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## Community Involvement

- Journalists for Human Rights, Various Legal Assistance

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## Credentials

### Education

- University of Western Ontario, LL.B.
- Queen’s University, B.A.H.

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### Languages

- English

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### Professional Affiliations

- ADR Institute of Canada
- Canadian Bar Association - Ontario
- Law Society of Ontario
- Advocates Society