

**PAUL M. SHIPP**



**PAUL M. SHIPP** is a Partner in the Cleveland office of Weston Hurd LLP. Paul focuses his practice on civil and criminal litigation including appeals with an emphasis on white collar criminal defense and business civil litigation involving construction, employment and labor law, personal injury, creditors' rights, and internal and external investigations. Prior to joining Weston Hurd, Paul was an Associate with Rotatori Bender Co., L.P.A. and also an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for

Cuyahoga County in the General Felony Unit. Paul received his B.A. *cum laude* in 2002 from Bowling Green State University and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2006 from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. He obtained his Ohio Bar admission in 2006 and also has admission before the United States District Court for the Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, and the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Ohio. Paul is a member of the Ohio State and Cleveland Metropolitan Bar associations. He has also been honored with selection for membership as an associate in The Judge John M. Manos Inn of Court. In November 2012, Paul was recognized by *Crain's Cleveland Business* in a special section titled "Who to Watch in Law" which identified some of the up-and-comers in Cleveland's legal field, and since 2014, he has been recognized as an "Ohio Rising Star" by *Law & Politics* (Thomson Reuters). In September 2015, Paul was a presenter at the Ohio State Bar Association's program on Criminal Advocacy. His presentation focused on "Considerations in Preparing for Sentencing in Federal Cases."

**Representative Civil Matters**

- Defended multi-million dollar construction company against civil charges of fraud, bribery, bid-rigging, and breach of contract stemming from a special audit conducted by the Ohio State Auditor's Office.
- Defended multi-million dollar mechanical contracting company against fraud and breach of contract claims related to federal corruption charges.

- Represented owners/executives and a multi-million dollar corporate entity in a civil suit involving Ohio Attorney General allegations of unfair consumer practices, fraud and illegal advertising practices.
- Represent several construction and manufacturing companies in litigation, including collections, claims, and breach of contract cases. Assist several local companies with corporate and transactional issues, including property tax value disputes, commercial leases, and general operating issues.

### **Representative Criminal Matters**

- Defended a business executive on federal corruption charges in a county corruption case and parallel civil litigation.
- Represented a multi-million dollar mechanical contracting company regarding responses to document subpoenas, FBI interviews, and in-court testimony of employees.
- Represented client on federal charges of making a false statement to law enforcement in a county corruption investigation. The matter also involved immigration issues.
- Defended owners/executives and a multi-million dollar corporate entity in an investigation involving allegations of unfair consumer practices, mail fraud, wire fraud, and illegal advertising practices.
- Represented lead defendant in Michigan federal mortgage fraud case involving allegations of over \$100 million in losses – the largest in the country.
- Defended Construction Company and its owner against state RICO, bribery, bid-rigging, conspiracy, theft, and tampering with records charges, including numerous parallel civil actions.
- Represented client against federal criminal charges for violations of copyright laws. Case involved the sale of computer chips for gaming consoles that allegedly over-rode built-in copyright/security features.
- Represented a mortgage refinancing company in a matter involving criminal and civil allegations of software copyright violations.
- Defended a real estate broker on allegations of mortgage fraud, state criminal RICO, receiving stolen property, and tampering with records. Case involved \$2.6 million mortgage fraud scheme in Cuyahoga County.
- Other representative matters include:
  - Drug possession
  - Drug trafficking
  - DUI/OVI
  - Felonious assault
  - Underage possession of alcohol
  - Illegal possession of contraband images
  - Allegations involving sexual crimes such as Rape, Gross Sexual Imposition, and Kidnapping
  - Domestic Violence charges
  - Weapons offenses

- Murder For Hire
- Juvenile Delinquency Proceedings
- University Disciplinary Proceedings
- Tax Offenses

**Contact Information**

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