ROBINSON GRAY
Litigation + Business

Paul Hoefer

MEMBER

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PAUL IS A LITIGATOR FOCUSING ON CREDITOR-DEBTOR, REAL ESTATE, AND RELATED BUSINESS DISPUTES. HE CURRENTLY SERVES ON THE FIRM'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Paul has experience in real property and lien litigation, commercial debt recovery, and financial fraud matters. He has represented financial institutions, individual and corporate property owners, and local and national businesses.

Paul has been named to “Best Lawyers in America” for his practice in Commercial Litigation, Real Estate Litigation, Real Estate Law (2021-2025), Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2025), and Litigation – Banking and Finance (2025). He has also been named a “Super Lawyer Rising Star” for Creditor-Debtor Rights (2018-2023).

Paul is also an active leader within the firm’s Meritas network, a global alliance of law firms serving 245 business markets. He is a past Chairman of the Meritas Emerging Leaders Advisory Board and currently serves as a designated Meritas member contact.

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Business
- Business Litigation
- Commercial Lending and Banking Law
- Insolvency and Creditors’ Rights
- Real Estate
- Litigation

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Lead counsel for national equipment servicer pursuing claims against former employees for misappropriation of confidential information, improper customer solicitations, breach of fiduciary duty, civil conspiracy, tortious interference, and injunctive relief.
- Lead counsel for creditors in loan workouts and recoveries, including debt restructurings, collections, receiverships, repossessions, tax sales, foreclosures, and judgment executions.
- Lead counsel for equipment lease provider in pursuing multi-million-dollar contract lawsuit, including claims for breach of fiduciary duty, successor liability, and piercing the corporate veil.
- Lead counsel for regional bank defending claims of negligence and malicious prosecution related to allegations and dispute over a bad check.
- Lead counsel for regional bank in trial court action and subsequent appeal of Order striking jury demands.
- Lead counsel for insured property owners and mortgage lenders in numerous lawsuits involving real property and lien disputes.
- Lead counsel for mortgage lender in trial involving claims to invalidate a tax sale
- Lead counsel for mortgage lender in trial involving claims to reform a mortgage.
- Lead counsel for mortgage lender in trial involving claims to set aside a deed and extinguish a mortgage based on allegations of fraud and forgery.
- Lead counsel for company in bankruptcy adversary proceedings involving fraudulent transfer claims.
- Lead counsel for regional bank defending claims based upon allegations of unauthorized account transactions.
- Lead counsel for regional bank defending claims based upon allegations of wrongful eviction from a primary residence.
- Lead counsel for a federal credit union defending claims based upon allegations of wrongful automobile repossession.
- Lead counsel for manufacturer and distributor of insulated concrete forms defending claims in a construction defect lawsuit.
- Lead counsel for industrial scaffolding provider and manufacturing facility owner defending mechanic’s lien and surety bond claims of a subcontractor.
- Lead counsel for corporation administering retirement assets defending claims based upon alleged unauthorized transfers of retirement account funds.
- Defended owner and luxury condominium developer against claims related to alleged violations of zoning ordinances and related government regulations.
- Represented landlord in a jury trial and subsequent appeal in pursuing claims against a tenant and guarantor for breach of a lease, unfair trade practices, and conversion.
- Lead counsel for owner of a commercial restaurant property in a landlord-tenant dispute.
- Represented judgment creditor in trial court action and subsequent appeal involving claims of fraudulent transfer, lien priorities, and foreclosure.

RANKINGS AND RECOGNITION

- Best Lawyers in America

    - Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2025-2027)
    - Litigation – Banking and Finance (2025-2027)
        - Lawyer of the Year (2026)
    - Commercial Litigation (2021-2027)
    - Litigation-Real Estate (2021-2027)
    - Real Estate Law (2021-2027)
- *Columbia Business Monthly* Legal Elite of the Midlands
    - Banking and Finance (2018-2019)
    - Foreclosure (2022-2023)
- South Carolina Super Lawyer Rising Star
    - Creditor Debtor Rights (2018-2023)
- South Carolina Bar Young Lawyers Division
    - President's Award (2015-2016)
    - Star of the Quarter (2009-2014)

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Professional

- John Belton O'Neall American Inn of Court
- The Kiwanis Club of Columbia
- Meritas
    - U.S. Leadership Committee
- Palmetto Land Title Association
- Richland County Bar Association
- South Carolina Bankers Association
- South Carolina Bar

CREDENTIALS

Bar Admissions

- South Carolina Bar

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina

- U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of South Carolina

Education

- University of South Carolina School of Law, J.D. (2008)
- University of South Carolina, Darla Moore School of Business, B.S. in Finance and Real Estate (2005)

RELATED INDUSTRIES

- Banking and Financial Services
- Corporate and Business
- Real Estate