



Joseph T. Baratta

ATTORNEY

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OVERVIEW

Joseph represents clients in the transportation, cargo, and logistics sectors in a variety of complex litigation.

Joseph came to the practice of law with a love of debate and oral advocacy, making litigation a natural fit. After beginning his career in general commercial litigation, he joined a team of attorneys at a prior firm with a strong focus on the transportation industry, and he shifted his own litigation practice to transportation and cargo-related disputes. Joseph is fascinated by the complex liability questions raised by the transport of cargo, and he's excited to work in a practice area that's so essential to everyday life.

Today, Joseph represents shippers, carriers, brokers, and intermediaries in a variety of matters, particularly cargo loss and damage, as well as occasional fraud claims. He works regularly with the Carmack Amendment and the liability limitations it establishes, as well as the Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act (FAAAA) and Carriage of Goods by Sea Act (COGSA), and he practices in federal courts across the country. In addition to his litigation work, Joseph also advises clients on various transportation agreements, such as broker carrier agreements and those with third party logistics providers.

Alongside his more traditional transportation practice, Joseph has also worked with autonomous vehicles and is enthusiastic about this new, developing area of law. As a Phoenix resident—a hotspot city for the autonomous vehicle industry—he has had a front row seat to the rapidly advancing capabilities of driverless cars.

Industry

Transportation

Services

Autonomous Vehicles

Commercial Litigation

Intermediaries

International Trade & Supply Chain

Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution

Ocean Law

Supply Chain Logistics

Truck, Transit, & Ground

Warehousing & Ports

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With a reputation for staying calm in hectic situations, Joseph has a gift for stepping back from the frantic pace of litigation to carefully strategize. Clients appreciate his calming nature in the midst of highly stressful situations, as well as his talent for communication. Known for prioritizing client communication, Joseph keeps clients fully informed on their cases and enjoys building long-term relationships.

Experience

- Secured summary judgment in the Central District of California on behalf of Best Bay Logistics in an international transportation dispute over stolen cargo during the domestic leg of the shipment. Published Opinion: *Fast Post Shanghai Logistics Co., Ltd. v. B612 Tima Inc., et al.*, Case No. EDCV 23-1628 JGB (DTBx) (C.D. Calif. Aug. 26, 2024).
- Secured summary judgment in the Southern District of Ohio on behalf of Navis Pack & Ship in an interstate transportation dispute involving missing artwork. Published Opinion: *Webster v. RTK Enters. of Columbus, LLC*, No. 2:22-CV-3708, 2025 WL 887459 (S.D. Ohio Mar. 21, 2025)

Education

- J.D., DePaul University College of Law
 - *cum laude*
- B.A., University of Iowa

Admissions

- Arizona
- Illinois
- Arizona Supreme Court
- Illinois Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court, District of Arizona
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois



International Trade Law: 2024
Year in Review & Outlook for
2025