



Glenn Zakaib

Senior Counsel and Co-Chair, Class Actions Group

T 416.367.6664

F 416.367.6749

Toronto

GZakaib@blg.com

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Glenn Zakaib is one of Canada's most experienced product liability and class action defence lawyers, and one of only a handful across the country to devote their practice to these areas.

He was named one of the top 30 product liability practitioners worldwide by IFLR. Chambers Canada ranks him Band 1 Nationwide for product liability litigation and Band 3 Nationwide for class action defence, stating he is widely recognized as a top lawyer in the market. Lexology Index says he "commands a spectacular reputation," recognizing him as a Global Elite Thought Leader.

Peers and clients say Glenn "gets the big picture issues," "takes reasonable positions that will be a success in the long run," is a "sophisticated professional who is able to break down complex matters into manageable bite sizes" and is willing to "come up with creative solutions." "I've not seen a better strategist," says one reviewer. "He's at the top of my list for handling nationwide matters."

His practical, proactive and sensitive approach to high stakes, high profile matters has made him the go-to advisor for clients as diverse as global auto manufacturers, life sciences companies, governments, aviation businesses and worldwide religious institutions. He has successfully defended claims ranging from misrepresentation and product defects to failure to warn and alleged violations of competition law.

Glenn thinks like both a lawyer and a businessperson, working hard to minimize pressure on inhouse resources and maximize time-saving collaboration and support. For Glenn, success is always defined by the client, whether

that's a well-argued defence before the courts or a well-negotiated low-profile settlement. But even before a claim is filed, he's looking around corners so his clients are prepared to mitigate risks with confidence.

As national co-chair of BLG's class actions group, Glenn is dedicated to building the firm's reputation across the country and mentoring the next generation — bright lights who will ensure BLG remains Canada's class actions law firm in the decades to come.

A natural connector and collaborator, he uses his wide network of international contacts to ensure clients facing multi-jurisdictional class actions have the best talent in the U.S., UK and Europe. Closer to home, Glenn coordinates BLG's representation on all domestic class actions so clients get top-notch BLG lawyers who know the courts and judges in the local jurisdiction.

Experience

- Defended manufacturers of automotive, aviation, industrial equipment, power tools, and home appliances in a wide array of class action proceedings and product liability cases related to alleged product defects, failure to warn and other competition law violations.
- Regarding *Goodridge v. Pfizer Canada Inc.*, defended drug manufacturer in a class action related to allegations of off-label marketing, adverse events, and inadequate product warning and labelling.
- Defended public and private corporations with respect to alleged *Competition Act* violations related to price fixing.
- Regarding *Anderson v. Canada (Attorney General)*, represented Moravian Union (third party) in a class action related to residential schools in Labrador.
- Regarding *Hamilton v. Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc.*, represented defendants in a class action proceeding related to alleged sudden unintended acceleration.
- Regarding *Voutour v. Pfizer Canada Inc.*, represented defendants in a class action alleging increased risk of adverse events related to the use of Cox-II NSAIDs.

Insights & Events

Beyond our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, Ontario Bar Association, class actions, insurance and civil litigation sections
- Member, Toronto Lawyers Association
- Member, The Advocates' Society
- Member, Canadian Defence Lawyers Association
- Member, International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC)
- Member, Defence Research Institute (DRI), (actively involved in the product liability, drug and medical device, commercial litigation and international committees)
- Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America

Awards & Recognitions

- Recognized in the 2025 edition (and since 2016) of *Chambers Canada — Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business* Dispute Resolution: Class Action (Defence) (Nationwide); Litigation: Product Liability (Nationwide)
- Recognized in the 2025 edition (and since 2004) of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Class Actions; Litigation: Product Liability)
- Selected by peers for inclusion in the 2025 (and since 2018) editions of *The Best Lawyers in Canada®* (Class Action Litigation; Product Liability Law)
- Ranked as a Global Elite Thought Leader in the 2024 (and since 2023) *Lexology Index* (formerly *Who's Who Legal*) reports for Product Liability Defence and Life Sciences – Product Liability
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2020) of *Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation*
- Recognized in the 2024, 2023, 2022 (and 2008-2019) editions of *The Lexpert®/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada* (Litigation - Product Liability)
- Recognized in the 2023 edition of *Lexpert Special Edition: Technology and Health Sciences*
- Recognized in the 2022 edition of *Benchmark Litigation — The definitive guide to litigation firms and attorneys in Canada*
- Recognized and Peer Rated in the 2021 edition of *Martindale-Hubbel* as "Preeminent" and "Distinguished"
- Recognized in the 2019 edition of the *Lexpert Guide to US/Canada Cross-border Lawyers in Canada*
- Recognized in the 2018 edition of *IFLR - The Best of the Best Global Guide* as one of the top 30 product liability practitioners worldwide
- Chambers Canada: "Glenn Zakaib is a prominent Toronto litigator who is widely recognised as one of the market's top product liability and class action lawyers. He garners recognition for his work concerning medical devices."
- Chambers Canada: "A first-class lawyer...he doesn't take unreasonable stances or approaches."
- Chambers Canada: "Glenn Zakaib is a pragmatic thinker."
- Chambers Canada: "His advice is practical, balanced and strategic."
- Chambers Canada: "Glenn is a highly skilled and diligent lawyer — his expertise and experience is valued."
- Lexology Index: "A fantastic lawyer" who is "very experienced" and possesses "great insight on product liability matters."
- Lexology Index: "Glenn is an excellent product liability lawyer."

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 1983
- LLB, McGill University, 1981
- BA, York University, 1978



BLG | Canada's Law Firm

As the largest, truly full-service Canadian law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) delivers practical legal advice for domestic and international clients across more practices and industries than any Canadian firm. With over 725 lawyers, intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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