



Thomas A. Beck

Director

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Thomas Beck focuses his practice on representing Delaware corporations, their directors, large stockholders, and other constituencies in corporate litigation. For more than 35 years, Tom has litigated corporate control disputes, shareholder class actions and derivative suits, contested shareholder elections, statutory appraisal actions, and similar matters in the Delaware Court of Chancery and the Delaware Supreme Court.

In addition to his litigation practice, Tom counsels Delaware corporations and their directors on corporate governance and statutory and fiduciary duties. He has significant experience in dealing with corporate control, fiduciary, and valuation issues.

Experience

- Represented a Fortune 100 technology company in acquisition-related derivative and class action litigation
- Represented Texas-based biotech company CDx and its directors in a class action trial challenging option valuation, argued before the Delaware Supreme Court *en banc* ([view Supreme Court oral argument](#))
- Represented an international petrochemical company in arbitration valuing a joint venture interest
- Appointed by the Court of Chancery as a Special Master in contentious advancement litigation
- Represented the special committee of Crown Media in a class action trial challenging the fairness of a recapitalization
- Represented John Q. Hammons in a class action trial challenging the fairness of a merger
- Represented Broadcom Corporation in Chancery litigation relating to its proposal to acquire Emulex
- Represented Nokia Corporation in Chancery litigation related to a multinational licensing dispute
- Represented Mentor Graphics in its successful attack on a dead-hand rights plan adopted by the target, Quickturn Design

- Participated in many of Delaware's landmark corporate litigation decisions including Rosenblatt, Unocal, Newmont Mining, Interco, Anderson Clayton, Time-Warner, QVC, Caremark, Fort Howard, Levine v. Smith and Mendel v. Carroll, as well as more recent decisions including Emerging Communications, PNB, TCI, Harrah's/JCC, Lyondell, In re John Q. Hammons, and Muoio v. Hallmark
- Has represented both bidders and target corporations in hostile acquisitions, both petitioners and respondents in appraisal litigation, and both plaintiffs and defendants in class action, fiduciary and other chancery court litigation

Publications

- "Recent Chancery Court Guidance on Rule 5.1," *Delaware Business Court Insider*, December 23, 2014
- "Delaware Supreme Court Reverses Chancery Court's *Lyondell* Decision," *BNA's Corporate Counsel Weekly*, April, 2009

Awards

- *The Legal 500*

Education

- J.D., Cornell Law School, 1981
- B.A., Dickinson College, 1978

Admitted to Practice

- Delaware, 1981
- United States Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
- United States Supreme Court

Practices

- Chancery / Corporate Litigation
- Corporate Advisory and Governance