

2023

SouthBank Legal
Year in Review 

From SouthBank Legal's Managing Partner

As we reflect on 2023, we have tremendous gratitude for our clients, who trust us with their high-profile, critical matters.

More than 25 Fortune 500 companies count on us for representation in federal and state courts around the country and to lead internal investigations, resolve tax controversies, handle labor and employment challenges, and much more.

We also greatly appreciate our team of talented, experienced, and responsive attorneys who choose to make SouthBank Legal their professional home. The firm's lawyers solve complex, win-or-bust matters and their successes and continued dedication have significantly contributed to our expansion in 2023.

Thank you and we look forward to more growth and teamwork in 2024!



Managing Partner Timothy M. Curran



Here We Grow

9

New Attorneys Joined the Firm
(including 5 former law clerks and 3 former Department of Justice attorneys)

1

New Office Opened in Grand Rapids, Michigan

2

New Practice Areas Added

- Appellate and Constitutional Law
- Tax Controversy

Service Excellence

Served 25+ Fortune 500 Clients

Spent Over 100 Days in Court

Won 4 Defense Verdicts

Defeated \$100+ Million Claims at Trial

Completed 4 Comprehensive Internal Investigations for Fortune 500 Clients



Recognitions

Best Lawyers in America 2024— Recognized Lawyers



Timothy M. Curran



Conor B. Dugan



Erin Linder Hanig



John D. LaDue



Chambers USA 2023
Indiana Litigation
General Commercial



**Best Law Firms 2024—
Northern Indiana**

Tier 1 for Commercial Litigation,
Employment Law – Management, and
Labor Law – Management

Tier 2 for Corporate Law



Business Transactions and Finance

Closing M&A Transactions

Despite global M&A activity in 2023 being down materially from 2022, SouthBank Legal experienced a robust deal flow, closing M&A transactions in diverse industries such as managed IT, building materials, professional services, healthcare, software as a service (SaaS), manufacturing and fabrication, and management services. A broad range of our subject-matter experts facilitated these transactions, including attorneys practicing in real estate, healthcare, data privacy, intellectual property, and tax.

Creative Financing

In a rising interest rate environment in 2023, SouthBank Legal successfully represented lenders and borrowers in a range of traditional financing transactions, from commercial bank debt financings to equity financings of start-up and early-stage companies. With costs of capital more expensive in 2023, we also assisted with more creative financing structures, such as rollover equity with put/call rights, seller and mezzanine loans, New Market Tax Credits, and non-dilutive federal R&D awards.



Commercial Litigation

Ongoing Representation of World's Largest Health Care Technology Company

The largest health care technology company in the world retained SouthBank Legal in mid-2018 to serve as local counsel at a jury trial four months later. Since then, we have continued to represent the company in protracted, complex litigation.

Fighting for Lucrative Sports Broadcasting Rights

Following allegations of corporate misconduct, a prominent media company turned to SouthBank Legal to protect its multi-billion-dollar rights to broadcast certain sporting events. We conducted a large-scale internal investigation and worked closely with corporate executives and international and Am Law 100 firms to prepare a multi-pronged litigation strategy.



Labor and Employment

Employment Defense for Major Vehicle Manufacturer

SouthBank Legal represents one of the world's largest recreational vehicle companies, defending against claims before federal and state agencies and in federal court. In 2023, we won a Title VII discrimination case at trial and successfully resolved similar cases at summary judgment.

Labor Investigation at Multinational Retailer

SouthBank Legal worked with one of the world's largest law firms and a national consulting company to conduct a high-stakes internal investigation into the labor practices of a multinational retail company following a whistleblower complaint. In the course of this investigation, we interacted with the client's senior management and provided extensive policy revisions.



Internal Investigations



Theft at Fortune 500 Company

An international corporation discovered extensive employee theft, potentially involving millions of dollars and managerial-level employees. In concert with a forensic auditing team, SouthBank Legal quickly gathered and analyzed data, conducted interviews, and briefed corporate counsel and executives on the results of the investigation.

Allegations Involving Fortune 500 Board

When a high-profile board member of a Fortune 500 company was accused of serious misconduct, the company turned to SouthBank Legal to investigate. Following an extensive review and multiple sensitive interviews, we worked with executives to implement our recommendations.



Tax Controversy

Major Matter Involving What the IRS Has Dubbed “Syndicated Conservation Easements”

SouthBank Legal represents one of the nation’s largest providers of private equity investments involving tax deductions for conservation easement donations. This topic has been the subject of congressional reports, Tax Court cases, investor lawsuits, and criminal tax investigations.

Advising Cannabis Companies on Thorny Tax Issues

The IRS interprets the law to preclude cannabis businesses from taking federal tax deductions or credits. The IRS similarly interprets rules excluding cost of goods sold from taxable income in unfavorable ways. SouthBank Legal helps multiple cannabis businesses navigate this difficult federal tax environment, pushing back against certain IRS positions.



White Collar Defense

Resolution of Massive Bank Fraud Scheme

The president of a national payroll provider, under federal investigation for running a \$150 million fraud scheme, retained SouthBank Legal to negotiate with financial institutions, coordinate the defense of multiple civil lawsuits and bankruptcy proceedings, and handle all negotiations with federal authorities. We ultimately negotiated a favorable plea deal.

No FCPA Prosecution in Case Involving Middle Eastern Deals

When federal agents arrived at the doorstep of a broker for the sale of industrial equipment in the Middle East, SouthBank Legal was the executive's first call. We successfully represented the client in negotiations and proffers with the DOJ Fraud Section and the DOJ declined to pursue an FCPA prosecution.





Timothy M. Curran, Managing Partner

tcurran@southbank.legal

574-968-0771



Conor B. Dugan, Grand Rapids Office Managing Partner

cdugan@southbank.legal

616-706-1103



James M. Haigh, South Bend Office Managing Partner

jhaigh@southbank.legal

574-968-2629



Jesse M. Barrett, Washington, D.C. Office Managing Partner

jbarrett@southbank.legal

202-467-8978

