

Frederick D. Cruz

Associate

950 Main Avenue, Suite 1100, Cleveland, OH 44113

D 216.696.5039 | **F** 216.592.5009

frederick.cruz@tuckerellis.com



education

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law (J.D.), *summa cum laude*, 2015; *Law Review*, Articles Editor; Student Bar Association, Vice President; CALI Excellence for the Future Award in Legal Writing The Ohio State University (B.S.), 2011

services

Business Litigation
Construction
Mass Tort & Product Liability
Bankruptcy

Frederick Cruz is an experienced trial attorney who practices in the areas of commercial litigation, construction litigation, personal injury defense, and creditors' rights.

Freddie represents businesses in commercial contract disputes, construction litigation, and creditors' rights actions, including bankruptcy and receivership matters, as well as other business-related torts. He also serves on a Tucker Ellis team that acts as national counsel for two Fortune 300 companies, defending their motor vehicle and premises liability cases. He is experienced in all aspects of litigation, including conducting and defending depositions, drafting dispositive and evidentiary motions, serving as first-chair counsel in trial and arbitration, and negotiating favorable settlements.

Before pursuing a career in law, Freddie – who also holds a degree in civil engineering – worked with the State Construction Engineer for the Ohio Department of Transportation in reintroducing the statewide Construction Partnering Program.

Freddie enjoys spending time outdoors with his family exploring all that Cleveland has to offer and playing recreational sand volleyball, basketball, and golf.

state admissions

- Ohio (2015)

federal admissions

- United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio
- United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio

experience

- As first-chair trial counsel, represented the plaintiff in a construction-related breach of contract and unjust enrichment bench trial, resulting in recovery of 100% of the damages
- Successfully represented a heavy civil contractor in a dispute before the American Arbitration Association involving general contractor claims of defective work and delays relating to deep shaft construction projects, resulting in a seven-figure recovery for the client, including contract balance, extra work, delays, and interest
- Successfully represented a general contractor in a construction dispute before the American Arbitration Association, obtaining a favorable ruling and award of damages
- Obtained summary judgment in favor of a Fortune 300 company in premises liability
- Manages the national defense of personal injury claims related to vehicle fleet operations of a product manufacturer

publications & events

PUBLICATIONS

- "Best Practices for Data Privacy and Cybersecurity in a Virtual Construction Work Environment," *Construction Executive* (May 2020)
- "Expanded Chapter 11 Access a Critical Part of CARES Act for Small Businesses," *ABF Journal* (May 2020)
- "Smart Contracts Poised to Impact the Future of Construction," *Construction Executive* (November 2019)
- "The Current Legal Landscape for 'Discovery on Discovery,'" materials prepared for "Preparing Corporate Witnesses for Discovery about Discovery and Preservation; Collection and Production Issues," Environmental & Energy, Mass Torts and Products Liability Litigation Committees' Joint CLE Seminar, American Bar Association, Squaw Valley, California (January 2017)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "What to Expect for Your Construction Business Post-COVID Lockdown," Webinar, Construction Employers Association (June 2020)
- "10 Things a GC Needs to Know in the Evolving World of Criminal Investigations and Enforcement," 2016 In-House Counsel Summit, Tucker Ellis LLP, Cleveland, Ohio (October 2016)

honors

- Best Lawyers® Ones to Watch (2021)

in the community

- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
 - 3Rs Program
- Ohio State Bar Association
- American Bar Association