



Patrick J. Rooney

Shareholder | patrick.rooney@fmjlaw.com

Pat Rooney's practice at FMJ focuses on representing both privately owned and publicly traded corporations in commercial litigation matters, including disputes involving shareholders and employees, contracts, securities, trade secrets, trademark, copyright and general commercial litigation issues. He has successfully tried numerous cases to conclusion in Minnesota state and federal courts, as well as courts in other states.

Since 2001, Pat has served on the board for The Fund for the Legal Aid Society, an organization whose primary task is to raise money to support The Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis. Pat has been named a top lawyer in Minnesota in the area of business litigation, and has been selected by his peers as a Super Lawyer through Minnesota Law & Politics every year since 2001 - a distinction received by less than 5% of the lawyers in Minnesota.

Education:

University of Vermont (BA cum laude 1982)
Duke University (MA economics 1986)
Duke University School of Law (JD 1986)

State Bar Admissions:

State of Minnesota (1989)
State of Wisconsin (1994)
State of Massachusetts (1986)

Professional Memberships and Associations:

American Bar Association, Section of Intellectual Property Law
Minnesota State Bar Association
Hennepin County Bar Association
Board Member – The Fund for the Legal Aid Society

Professional Publications:

Take These Steps Before Adding New Shareholders, Upsize Minnesota, February 2005

Reported Cases:

Daniel Ehrmann v. Leslie Adam, et al., A08-2120 (Unpublished Opinion), Minnesota Court of Appeals (09/01/09); Dismissal of plaintiff's defamation lawsuit based on comments made by attorney during settlement discussions upheld.

Powell v. Anderson, A05-734 (Unpublished Opinion), Minnesota Court of Appeals (01/10/06); terms of a shareholder agreement signed by a minority shareholder in closely held corporation presumed to reflect the parties' reasonable expectations, and the court is bound to follow it unless minority shareholder establishes price of terms are unreasonable under all the circumstances of the case.

Power of the Big.
Spirit of the Small.

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Bolander v. Bolander, 703 N.W.2d 529 (Minn. App. 2005); the existence or a renewed or extended contract for services, after the expiration of the term specified in the parties' written contract, may be established by the preponderance of the evidence; where president of a closely held company admits to actions not in the best interests of the company, some form of equitable relief under Minnesota Statutes is required.

Nelson Design Group. L.L.C. v. Scoville Press. Inc., A04-1603 (Unpublished Opinion), Minnesota Court of Appeals (06/21/05); summary judgment for defendant inappropriate if plaintiff able to raise even minimal fact issue concerning material issue of fact.

Crenlo, Inc. v. Austin-Romtech, A03-851 (Unpublished Opinion), Minnesota Court of Appeals (05/04/04); summary judgment in breach of contract claim not appropriate if there are factual disputes regarding what was bargained for and received as part of the contract.

In re Estate and Trust of Walter G. Anderson, 654 N.W.2d 682 (Minn. App. 2002); decision of district court denying petitioner's claim to remove trustee has preclusive to subsequent petition challenging final accounting on all issues decided in first matter; when a will, stock-redemption agreement and trust form part of the same estate plan, they must be construed together when ascertaining the settlor's intent.

Raines v. Sony Corporation of America, 523 N.W.2d 495 (Minn. App. 1995); trial court erred in submitting case to jury on theory of res ipsa loquitur when evidence would sustain other theories of causation.

Fire Insurance Exchange v. Adamson Motors, 514 N.W.2d 807 (Minn. App. 1994); proper calculation of prejudgment interest is established; party not obligated to advise opponent prior to trial of opponent's witnesses' perjury conviction and trial court did not err in not granting a continuance when witness failed to appear to testify.

Rennick v. Minnegasco, et al., C5-90-917 (Unpublished Opinion), Minnesota Court of Appeals (11/20/90); absent notice of a problem, prior owner of real estate is not liable for injury to purchaser or third party caused by the condition of the premises existing at the time the purchaser took possession.

Practice Areas:

- Commercial Litigation
- Employment Litigation
- General Litigation
- Insurance Defense Litigation
- Products Liability Litigation



Practice Philosophy:

"I believe that my job as litigation counsel is, first, to work with my client to properly and realistically define his or her goals for the dispute. After that, my job is to do everything possible, within the boundaries of the law, to help my client attain those goals."

The Rest of the Story:

Pat lives with his wife, Laura, and their two sons in the western suburbs of Minneapolis. Pat is a season ticket-holder for the University of Minnesota Gopher football team. He also enjoys baseball, movies, reading and traveling with his family.

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