



## Mike Gentine

Counsel  
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### Overview

Mike counsels manufacturers, retailers, and other commercial clients on legal and regulatory matters particularly in the area of consumer goods and product safety. Drawing from his federal government, private practice, and in-house experience, Mike advises on compliance strategies and government relations, helping clients advance legislative and policy objectives at the state and federal levels. His experience in the product recall space includes having negotiated or collaborated on consumer product and motor vehicle recalls in multiple countries.

Mike held multiple positions at the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). He served as senior counsel for the Office of CPSC Commissioner Joseph P. Mohorovic from 2014-2017, where he advised on various policy, enforcement, and ethics issues. He led several efforts to reform rules and regulations, including an initiative to reduce the paperwork burden on CPSC-regulated companies. He also worked at the CPSC as a legal fellow and law clerk in the Office of Commissioner Nancy Nord.

Most recently, Mike advised a major recreational product and motor vehicle manufacturer on product safety and compliance strategies, representing the company in agency proceedings, stakeholder organizations, and trade associations. He also served in a government relations role, advancing legislative and policy objectives before federal, state, and local governments. His legal training included service with the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee and U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps.

Aided by a prior career in broadcast journalism, Mike is a frequent speaker at industry and other conferences on product safety, regulatory, compliance, and government affairs topics.

### Practices

- Product Liability and Mass Torts
- Consumer Products
- CPSC Investigations and Counseling

### Industries

- Consumer Products and Services
- State and Local Government
- Transportation and Logistics
- Sports, Media, and Entertainment

### Experience

- Provided regulatory and political counsel in civil penalty settlement with CPSC that included an unprecedented global release of potential liability.
- Negotiated dozens of CPSC and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recalls.
- Led successful effort to reduce CPSC's administrative burdens on apparel industry by more than \$250 million annually.
- Led successful effort to reform CPSC's rules of adjudicative proceedings to prevent usurpation of Commission authority.
- Overturned denials of three pharmaceutical claims totaling more than \$180,000 for one treatment at one hospital.

## Credentials

### Education

- George Washington University Law School, J.D., 2012  
Federal Circuit Bar Journal  
Mock Trial Board, Member  
Moot Court Board, Member  
Federalist Society, President  
Military Law Society, President
- Florida State University, M.A., Communications, 2009
- Florida State University, B.A., History, 2003

### Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Maryland
- U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland

### Professional Memberships

- International Consumer Product Health and Safety Organization, Member; Annual Meeting & Training Symposium, Planning Committee (2018); Northwest Regional Product Safety Training Workshop, Planning Committee (2018); Annual Meeting & Training Symposium, Planning Committee (2019)
- DRI, The Voice of the Defense Bar, Member (2016-Present); Products Liability Committee, Recreational Products Specialized Litigation Group, In-House Co-Chair (2018); Products Liability Committee, Food Law Specialized Litigation Group, Marketing Chair (2019-Present); Diversity & Inclusion Committee (2019-Present); Young Lawyers Committee (2016-Present); Corporate Counsel Committee (2017-2018); Regulatory and Transactional Task Force, Member (2019-Present)
- Anne Arundel Bar Association (2019-Present)
- American Bar Association, Administrative Law Section, Member
- Maryland State Bar Association, Administrative Law Section, Member
- Federalist Society, Member

### Teaching Appointments

- Florida State University, College of Communication and Information, Public Speaking, Graduate Teaching Assistant

### Languages Spoken & Fluency

- Spanish, Limited

## Insights

11.20.2020

Blog Post

Rare CPSC Penalty Referral to Department of Justice May Signal a More Aggressive Agency in the Biden Era

11.19.2020

Article

What To Expect From CPSC During The Biden Era

Nov. 2020

Article

Tort Law Versus the CPSC Treatment of Design Changes

11.13.2020

Blog Post

A Little Less Fuzzy: What to Expect from the CPSC During the Biden Era

11.12.2020

Blog Post

A Little Less Fuzzy: What to Expect from the CPSC Before the Biden Era

11.11.2020

News Release

Schiff Hardin Advises Kimball International, Inc. in the Acquisition of Poppin, Inc. for \$110 Million

11.02.2020

Blog Post

Outgoing Adler: Acting CPSC Chair Will Not Seek Re-Nomination, Adding to Agency's Leadership Uncertainty

10.21.2020

Blog Post

Safety on the Hill: Prospects for CPSC Overhaul in the 117th Congress

09.15.2020

Blog Post

Lingering Uncertainties Facing the CPSC: Election Contingency Plans

09.08.2020

Blog Post

Lingering Uncertainties Facing the CPSC: If Not Beck, Then Who?

[View All](#)

## Publications

- "Reporting of Litigation Information Under Section 37 of the Consumer Product Safety Act," *Strictly Speaking*, DRI Product Liability Committee newsletter, Vol. 16 (Winter 2019)
- "Riding the Trails to Bad Law: The Inevitably Unjust Results of the National Trails System Act and Current Takings Jurisprudence," *ABA Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Journal*, Vol. 47 (Spring 2012)

## Speeches & Presentations

- "Right-to-Repair: Best Practices in Advocacy", National Association of Manufacturers Emerging Trends Briefing Call (Feb. 20, 2020)
- "The Role of Transparency in the Information Age of Product Safety - The Future of 6(b)," International Consumer Product Health & Safety Organization Annual Meeting, Orlando, Fla. (Feb. 19, 2020)
- "Is Your Innovation Stifled Yet? Disparity Between Tort Law and CPSC Treatment of Design," DRI Product Liability Conference, New Orleans, La. (Feb. 5, 2020)
- "Changing Consumer Expectations for Product Safety," American Home Furnishings Alliance, 2019 Regulatory Summit, Jamestown, N.C. (Oct. 2, 2019)
- "Regulatory Update for the US and the EU," International Symposium on Product Compliance Engineering 2019, San Jose, Calif. (May 7, 2019)
- "Practical Methods for Establishing a Product Safety Program," (co-presenter) International Symposium on Product Compliance Engineering 2019, San Jose, Calif. (May 7, 2019)
- Testified before the U.S. House Subcommittee on Consumer Protection & Commerce of the Committee on Energy & Commerce in an oversight hearing of the Consumer Product Safety Commission entitled, "Protecting Americans from Dangerous Products: Is the Consumer Product Safety Commission Fulfilling Its Mission?" (Apr. 9, 2019)
- "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow: How Burgeoning Access to Information Has and Will Impact Consumer Expectations for Product Safety," (panelist) 2018 ICPHSO Annual Meeting and Training Symposium, Orlando, Fla. (Feb. 22, 2018)
- "From the Outside Looking Back In: CPSC Practice from a Former Insider's Perspective," Children's Products Panel Counsel Meeting, DRI 2018 Product Liability Conference, San Diego, Calif. (Feb. 7, 2018)
- "Discussion of Policy Views on Consumer Misuse of Products," (moderator) 2017 ICPHSO Annual Meeting and Training Symposium, Orlando, Fla. (Feb. 20, 2018)
- "The Year in Review – A Civil Penalty Overview in the Wake of Gree, Spectrum Brands, and Zen Magnets," (panelist) 2017 ICPHSO Annual Meeting and Training Symposium, Orlando, Fla. (Feb. 20, 2018)
- "Medicare (Dis)Advantage?: How Medicare Advantage is Supposed to Work and What Hospitals Can Do to Make It Work for Them," 2014 South Carolina HFMA Annual Institute, Myrtle Beach, S.C. (May 28, 2014)
- "One Twice Upon a Midnight Dreary: The Ins, Outs, and Implications of Medicare's Two-Midnight Rule," 2014 South Texas HFMA Annual Institute, South Padre Island, Texas (May 22, 2014)
- "Medicare (Dis)Advantage?: How Medicare Advantage is Supposed to Work and What Hospitals Can Do to Make It Work for Them," 2014 Virginia AAHAM Spring Regional Conference, Charlottesville, Va. (Mar. 7, 2014)

## Citizenship

### Civic and Charitable Memberships

- Military Veterans in Journalism, Board of Directors and General Counsel
- Served as frequent judge of moot court competitions at The George Washington University Law School
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) preparer

## AWARDS & HONORS

- Go-To Thought Leader (2019)  
*The National Law Review*