# National Association of Dealer Counsel 2025 Attorney Directory





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#### NADC History

In 2004, Jonathan Harvey (a dealer attorney and trial lawyer from Albany, New York) had the idea to create a national organization comprised of attorneys who represent vehicle dealers. Mr. Harvey sought assistance from nationally recognized consumer finance attorney, Tom Hudson of Hudson Cook, LLP. Together, they selected a team of 11 other prominent dealer attorneys that would become the NADC's first Board of Directors.

#### **NADC** Presidents



#### NADC Purpose

The National Association of Dealer Counsel (NADC) is a nationwide professional organization of attorneys who represent automobile and other vehicle dealers.

The NADC provides a forum for members to share information, common experience, and advice related to manufacturer franchise issues, lemon laws, vehicle finance, regulatory complexities, insurance laws, tax laws, buy/sell agreements, employment law, and many other issues facing dealers and their counsel today.

#### **NADC Member Benefits**

Since 2004, the NADC has been providing valuable benefits to its members. In 2025, membership in the NADC continues to thrive. The NADC offers:

- Advanced website with searchable knowledgebase
- Dealer-related legal publications
- Members-only conferences and webinars
- Members-only email list-serve (an active forum for attorney members to ask questions and share critical information about dealer law)
- Online resource library and member directory

#### National Association of Dealer Counsel

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## **2025 NADC Attorney Directory**

# Table of Contents



NADC Board of Directors	.5-	е
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#### **NADC Attorney Members**

Alabama7	
Arizona7	
Arkansas10	
California11	
Colorado22	
Connecticut24	
Delaware24	
District of Columbia24	
Florida25	
Georgia	
Idaho	
Illinois	
Indiana40	
lowa44	
Kansas45	
Kentucky45	
Louisiana47	
Maine	
Maryland50	
Massachusetts53	
Michigan55	
Minnesota56	
Mississippi58	
Missouri58	
Montana59	
Nevada60	

New Hampshire	61
New Jersey	61
New Mexico	64
New York	65
North Carolina	72
Ohio	
Oklahoma	77
Oregon	78
Pennsylvania	79
Puerto Rico	80
South Carolina	80
Tennessee	81
Texas	83
Utah	
Vermont	90
Virginia	90
Washington	94
West Virginia	95
Wisconsin	

Trade Association Executives	98
Associate Members	99
NADC Upcoming Conference	106
Index to Advertisers	107

## **NADC Board of Directors**

President: Scott Silverman is the Vice President and General Counsel of DSR Motor Group that owns and operates dealerships throughout New England. Scott previously served as the General Counsel of Prime Automotive Group. From 2011 to the middle of 2017 Scott operated his own firm (Silverman Advisors) and concentrated his practice in the areas of complex commercial litigation, automotive franchise law, business consulting, and employment law. Prior to starting Silverman Advisors, Scott was a Partner with McCarter & English, LLP in Boston and before that a Partner with Gadsby Hannah LLP where he began his career in 1997. Contact: ssilverman@dsrmotorgroup.com or 781-929-8231.

Vice President: Eric Baker is a private-practice attorney at Wisconsin Dealer Law in Madison, Wisconsin. Eric represents automobile, heavy truck, farm implement, and equipment dealers in a variety of franchise, consumer, and other business litigation, in administrative proceedings, state and federal courts, arbitrations, and appeals. Eric also advises clients in litigation avoidance, state and federal regulatory compliance, and employment matters, and teaches compliance seminars for dealer groups and associations. Eric also represents dealerships in buy/sell transactions and succession planning. Contact: eric@widealerlaw.com or 608-285-9200.

Treasurer: Donald W. Gould II is a shareholder in the Houston based firm, Johnson DeLuca Kurisky & Gould P.C. The firm has a large dealer practice. Mr. Gould has been practicing dealer law for over 30 years. He regularly represents both publicly and privately owned dealerships and dealership groups in all aspects of dealer law. Practice areas include defending consumer litigation, manufacturer disputes, lender disputes, labor and employment litigation, administrative enforcement actions, premises liability, landlord disputes, advertising compliance, buy-sells, licensing and just about any other dealer related matter that arises. Mr. Gould obtained his BBA from Baylor University's Hankamer School of Business and his JD from Southern Methodist University. Contact: Dgould@Jdkglaw.com or 832-527-0630.

Secretary: Timothy D. Robinett joined the law firm *Manning, Leader, Bruder & Berberich* in 1994, and has been a partner since 2002. Mr. Robinett's practice areas for the firm include general litigation, consumer and commercial litigation, automotive dealer law, automotive finance law, business purchase and sales transactions, real estate transactions, administrative law, and construction law. Mr. Robinett's practice encompasses litigation, internal investigations and prelitigation counseling for the firm's clients. He has successfully litigated cases throughout California in state court, federal court, before the California New Motor Vehicle Board, and through private arbitration.

Immediate Past President: Jami Farris is a neutral with *Miles Mediation and Arbitration*. She was formerly a partner in the law firm of Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Charlotte, North Carolina. For more than twenty years, she advised and represented large automotive groups and individual dealers on a wide variety of issues, including the Motor Vehicle Act, federal regulation, contract drafting, consumer claims, social media and the internet, contract and commercial torts litigation, buy-sell issues, real estate, and construction. She received her B.A. from the College of William and Mary and her J.D. from the University of North Carolina School of Law. Contact: Change to: jami@ farrisgrp.com or 704-231-2349.

Past President: Johnnie Brown is an equity member in the law firm of Pullin, Fowler, Flanagan, Brown & Poe, PLLC, in Charleston, West Virginia. Mr. Brown acts as both litigation and compliance counsel for medium and small businesses in the areas of employment and automobile industry related issues. Mr. Brown serves as outside general counsel for the West Virginia Automobile and Truck Dealers Association and privately represents dozens of new motor vehicle dealers in West Virginia. He represents motor vehicle dealers in consumer complaints, employment law, and manufacturer disputes, and provides compliance training to motor vehicle dealers on consumer obligations, advertising, finance and insurance practices and employment law. He served as the drafter and lead negotiator of the West Virginia franchise law. Mr. Brown is a graduate of Marshall University and the West Virginia College of Law. Contact: jbrown@pffwv.com or 304-344-0100.

Past President: Andrew J. Weill, Principal, Weill & Mazer, a leading business and tax planning and dispute firm in the San Francisco Bay Area. Mr. Weill's practice includes complex business, tax and estate disputes across the nation, with a focus on tax and regulatory issues affecting the automobile dealer finance and insurance (F&I) industry. He graduated from Yale University in 1973 and obtained his J.D. from Berkeley Law School in 1976. He is a Certified Specialist in Taxation Law and a frequent speaker and writer on tax and litigation issues. Contact: weill@ weillmazer.com or 415-421-0730.

Past President: Stephen P. Linzer retired from the practice of law in April 2021 after being a shareholder at *Tiffany* & Bosco, P.A in Phoenix, Arizona where he founded its automobile and RV industry practice group. He is a graduate of Tufts University and Northwestern University School of Law. Contact: stevelinzer@gmail.com or 480-220-3545.

Past President: Oren Tasini is retired from the practice of law. Prior to his retirement, he was the General Counsel for the Qvale Auto Group. Mr. Tasini was also a shareholder with the law firm of Haile, Shaw & Pfaffenberger, PA. in Palm Beach, Florida. Oren has over 30 years of experience working with automotive dealerships assisting them with legal compliance, regulatory and franchise matters, and in the purchase and sale of automotive franchises. He is a founding member of the National Association of Dealer Counsel and he serves on the Florida Automobile Dealers Association's Legislative Committee. He is a graduate of Georgetown University Law center, where he was a member of The Tax Lawyer. Oren is an adjunct professor at Keiser University, teaching business law. Oren is a 1983 graduate of fiction, "First Tuesday". Contact: oren@orentasini.com or 561-389-4475.

Past President: Patricia E.M. Covington is a Partner in the law firm of *Hudson Cook, LLP* in Richmond, Virginia. Her practice focuses on consumer finance, F&I, voluntary protection products law, UDAP, UDAAP, data privacy, security and information management, electronic commerce, and marketing, as well as matters involving the Federal Trade Commission and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. She received her J.D. from T.C. Williams School of Law, University of Richmond. Contact: pcovington@hudco.com or 410-980-5038.

Past President: Rob Cohen is Principal at Rob Cohen, a Professional Law Corporation, and previously served as President, Managing Partner, and Chairman at Auto Advisory Services before selling the business in 2018. Rob continued with Auto Advisory Services, a leading compliance consulting company with a client base of over 600 retail automotive dealerships, in a consulting role until May of 2020. From 2011 through 2020, Rob was Senior Automotive Counsel with Arent Fox, LLP, which operates offices in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, and New York. Arent Fox is a recognized leader in areas including automotive, sports, white collar, intellectual property, real estate, telecommunications, health care, international trade, bankruptcy, and complex litigation. Rob is Co-Founder, and served as General Counsel and Secretary of Motor Vehicle Software Corporation (now Vitu) from January 2006 through September 2015. Vitu provides electronic title and registration solutions in California, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Montana, Oregon, Virginia and most recently, Pennsylvania. In addition to in-state transactions, Vitu provides national, 50-state title and registration processing with Vitu Interstate. Rob has served as an attorney and consultant to a number of clients in the automotive industry, has authored several books and articles on automotive dealer legal compliance matters, and has been featured in numerous industry seminars where he shares insights and experience gained from his over thirty years in the automotive industry. Rob earned his Juris Doctorate degree from Whittier Law School, his BA from UC Irvine, and his MBA from the University of California, Irvine Graduate School of Management with a concentration in Finance. Contact: rob@robcohen.law or 714-393-6624.

Past President: Michael Charapp (deceased), spent his life in and around the automobile business, including working in his family's Dodge dealership until he graduated from college. Michael represented and advised numerous business clients, including well over 200 automobile dealers and several automobile dealer trade associations, including the Maryland Automobile Dealers Association, the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association, and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association. He was a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and of the Georgetown University Law Center.

**Past President: Jonathan P. Harvey** is Senior Partner of the *Jonathan P. Harvey Law Firm,* Saratoga Springs, New York where he concentrates on complex commercial litigation and the representation of automobile dealerships. He is the originator and first President of the NADC. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and the Albany Law School of Union University. Contact: jpharvey@jpharveylaw.com or 518-463-4491.

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#### California

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# **Associate Members**

Associate Membership is open to companies and organization that are interested in furthering NADC goals. Once a member, your company can communicate directly to NADC members through:

- An article describing your company and what it offers in an issue of The Defender, the NADC newsletter
- A business card size ad in every issue of The Defender
- A full page ad in the conference book at the biannual conferences
- Table top display space at NADC conferences to market your product and services
- An ad on the log-in page of the NADC website that links to your company website
- Speaking opportunities at the biannual conferences and webinars

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Group is a premier consulting company in the automobile industry with offices in East Lansing and Chicago. Since 1996, hundreds of dealerships have benefitted from our market analyses, sales performance analyses, evaluation of "good cause" in dealer terminations, site selection and location analyses, economic damages calculations, dealership valuations, and EV sales and tax incentive analyses. Our studies are frequently referenced to inform legal proceedings, legislative bodies, and corporate boards, particularly regarding expert testimony and tax/public policy work. Our careful methodology in measuring dealership performance, business value, and market position helps dealers to maximize business decisions, improve business sale prospects, and conduct effective estate planning.



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proprietary software and data management techniques offer clients the only true mark-up and labor rate optimization process in the market. The Armatus team has extensive retail automotive experience, superior knowledge of manufacturer protocols, and has provided the framework for 17 retail warranty reimbursement statutes. The company is endorsed/licensed by 24 state automobile dealer associations.

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Financing Documentation, Franchise Issues, Real Estate. Whether you're looking for floor plan loans, commercial loans for real estate or acquisition financing, it's important to partner with a financial institution that understands the needs of auto dealerships. At BMO our experienced and dedicated relationship managers work with dealers nationwide, and will work with you to develop a strategic plan with industry-specific solutions, for your business' needs both now and as you grow. Visit to learn more: commercial.bmo.com/dealerfinance.

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empowers dealerships to harness data-driven insights that enhance KPIs across marketing, lead generation, sales conversions, F&I performance, inventory management, and fixed operations productivity and efficiency. We understand that dealers often face overwhelming amounts of data, and our solutions cut through the noise. Our real-time dashboards provide clear, actionable insights, enabling dealers to track results from anywhere—whether managing multiple locations or dealing with leadership turnover. These customizable dashboards ensure accountability and drive faster, smarter decision-making, keeping operations on track in any circumstance. By integrating multiple data sources into a single, streamlined system, we help optimize cash flow, simplify processes, and increase profitability. CarMinds combines deep industry expertise with innovative data-backed solutions to deliver measurable results that support long-term growth, accelerated ROI, and operational stability.

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Sale-Leaseback transactions. NNN Pro has developed into a full-service real estate investment firm providing services such as: sale-leaseback programs for private equity firms and large franchisees; structured disposition programs for public and private REITs and developers; investment sales / advisory services as well as portfolio management for high-net-worth individuals. STNL Advisors, the firms lease advisory arm, serves as an intermediary between tenants and their landlords, providing expert third party advisory services such as restructuring / negotiating leases, terminating leases, buybacks, and executing Buy and Recast (buyback and flip) thereby creating opportunities for clients to maximize their cash flow while managing their growth.

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economics, statistics, financial analysis, data management and GIS to solve complex business problems. We consult with dealers regarding Add Points, Relocations, Allocation, Sales and Customer Satisfaction Performance, Denied Buy/Sells, Area of Responsibility Analysis, Location Analysis, Financial Analysis, Credit Discrimination, Medium and Heavy Vehicles, Brand Elimination, Demographics, Wholesale Finance and others. We provide litigation support such as: Discovery, Expert Testimony, Deposition and Trial Preparation, Case Review and Analysis, Rebuttal Analysis, and Testimony, Data Management and Analysis, Exhibit Preparation, Statistical and Economic Analysis, and Class Action Damages.

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# **INDEX TO ADVERTISERS**

Anderson Economic Group	57
ArentFox Schiff, LLP	13
Armatus Dealer Uplift	51
Bush & Ramirez, PLLC	85
GW Marketing Services	53
Haig Partners	27
Kerrigan Advisors	15
LAW Reynolds	inside cover
LAW Reynolds	back cover
Mallor Grodner LLP	41
Manning, Leaver, Bruder & Berberich, LLP	17
Mercer Capital	82
Performance Brokerage Services, Inc.	21
St. Denis & Davey, PA	29
Stoll Keenon Ogden, PLLC	43
Stoll Keenon Ogden, PLLC	46
The Fontana Group, Inc	9
The Towne Law Firm	69
Weston Hurd, LLP	75



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