



John Fetters

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John Fetters represents individuals and businesses in a broad range of civil litigation matters, including business and complex commercial litigation, insurance coverage, municipal liability, personal injury, product liability, and aviation law. John has tried cases to verdict in state and federal court and has handled many successful arbitration proceedings. *Super Lawyers Magazine* selected John to its “Rising Stars” list every year since 2013. John was recognized as one of the 2017 [Top 40 Young Lawyers](#) by the American Bar Association. The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) selected John as one of the select recipients of the [2016 Best Lawyers Under 40 Award](#). This award recognizes talented individuals in the Asian Pacific American legal community who are under the age of 40 and have achieved prominence and distinction in their respective fields and who have demonstrated a strong commitment to Asian Pacific American civic or community affairs.



Practice Areas

[Business and Complex Commercial Litigation](#)

[Product Liability](#)

[Torts and Personal Injury](#)

[Insurance](#)

[Municipal Liability](#)

[Aviation](#)

Education

Seattle University School of Law, J.D., *summa cum laude*, 2008

Associate Editor, *Seattle University Law Review*

Seattle University National Moot Court Team

Dean's List, 2006-2008

Extern to Honorable James L. Robart, United States District Court for the Western District of Washington
Washington State University, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 2004

Admitted to Practice

Washington

Oregon

U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Washington

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

Representative Work

BUSINESS DISPUTES/COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Represented individual in securities fraud litigation, securing judgment for client for the principal amount of his investment, treble damages, interest, and attorneys' fees.

Represented individual in breach of contract lawsuit involving a high-value, personal services contract.

Represented individual in breach of fiduciary duty litigation against property developer/manager, which resulted in a judgment of \$1.2 million in favor of client.

Represented Japanese auto manufacturer in warranty dispute.

Defended municipality in multimillion dollar land use litigation related to large housing development.

Defended Acura dealer in unfair business practices claim. Obtained full defense verdict at trial.

Represented construction equipment manufacturer in breach of contract action against specialty metal parts supplier.

Defended international merchant bank in lender liability action.

Defended business process outsourcing company in breach of contract action.

Represented owner of closely held corporation in breach of contract action against co-owner.

Represented several commercial property owners in breach of lease disputes.

AVIATION

Represented commercial helicopter operator in wrongful death action involving crash with three fatalities.

Defended commercial airline in civil rights lawsuit.

Defended private weather service in action by commercial airline passengers for injuries related to turbulence. Prevailed on summary judgment: [2011 WL 678657 \(PDF\)](#).

Defended commercial airline in negligent infliction of emotional distress claim where engine fan cowls dislodged during flight.

Defended several commercial airlines in boarding/deplaning trip-and-fall claims.

Represented general aviation manufacturer in air crash litigation.

INSURANCE

Represented homeowners in action against property insurer for insurance coverage relating to damaged sewer line.

Represented homeowners in action against property insurer and construction contractors for insurance coverage and damages relating to dishwasher failure and defective remediation by contractors.

Represented chiropractor in insurance coverage lawsuit against professional liability insurer and commercial general liability insurer.

Represented liability insurer in large contribution action against co-insurer.

PRODUCT LIABILITY

Represented medical device manufacturer in action involving claim of defective endotracheal tube.

Represented medical device manufacturer in action involving claim of defective bio-engineered bone graft device.

Regularly represents American auto manufacturer in product liability claims, including claims involving airbag deployment, restraint systems, fire cause and origin, and crashworthiness.

TORTS

Represented injured plaintiff in premises liability action.

Represented plaintiffs in head-on automotive collision.

Defended municipality engaged in habitat conservation projects against claims that a project obstructed a watercourse and caused flooding to an adjacent landowner; achieved total defense verdict in favor of client following three-week jury trial.

Defended national mortgage field services company against claims of trespass, conversion, negligence, and violation of the consumer protection act.

Represented trucking company in jury trial involving auto collision and catastrophic injuries.

Represented cash logistics, armored transportation company in auto collision litigation.

Defended municipality in flood litigation.

Results in any particular case cannot predict the outcome in any other case.

Professional and Community Activities

PROFESSIONAL

American Bar Association
ABA TIPS Leadership Academy, Fellow, 2016-2017
Asian Bar Association of Washington
Collaborative Bar Leadership Academy, Fellow, 2016
Federal Bar Association
Filipino Lawyers of Washington (FLOW), Board Member
President Elect, 2016
Joint Asian Judicial Evaluations Committee
King County Bar Association
National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NABABA)
National Filipino American Lawyers Association (NFALA)
Northwest Aviation Insurance Association
Washington State Bar Association

COMMUNITY

King County Bar Association Neighborhood Legal Aid Clinic (International District), Pro Bono Attorney

Publications and Speaking Engagements

PUBLICATIONS

Regular-contributing author, "Legislative Tracking," *The Voice*, DRI
Contributing Author, "[Case Law Update \(Ninth Circuit\)](#)," DRI Product Liability Conference, February, 2015
Co-author, "[Is Self-Insurance Really Insurance? UM and PIP Coverage Obligations for Self-Insurers](#)," *The SIRMon*, ABA *Self-Insurers and Risk Managers Committee Newsletter*, 2009.
Also published in: *WSBA Litigation Section Newsletter*, 2010; and *The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel*, 2009
Co-author, "[State of Washington Construction Law Compendium](#)," USLAW Network, 2009

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Co-Presenter and Author, "Goodbye 'Sweetheart.' The Ethics of Eliminating Discrimination and Promoting Diversity in Legal Practice," King County Bar Association Aviation and Space Law Section's Annual Meeting, 2017
Presenter, "Is the Common Carrier Doctrine Still Relevant in Modern Aviation?" 38th Annual Pacific NW Aviation Law & Insurance Seminar, 2011
Presenter, "Aviation Case Law Update," 37th Annual Pacific NW Aviation Law & Insurance Seminar, 2010
Presenter, "[Tribal Self-Insurance: Opportunity and Related Medicare Law Changes](#)," Tribal Economic Development Seminar, 2009

Recognition

Selected as one of the 2017 [Top 40 Young Lawyers](#) by the American Bar Association, 2017
Recipient of the "Best Lawyers Under 40 Award" from the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), 2016
Named to "Rising Stars," *Super Lawyers Magazine*, Thomson Reuters, 2013-2018
Frederic C. Tausend Moot Court Competition for Appellate Advocacy, First Place
CALI Award: Evidence, Seattle University School of Law
CALI Award: Legal Writing, Seattle University School of Law
Cheney and Metzger Legal Writing Scholarships, Finalist
King County Bar Foundation Scholar
Seattle University Academic Achievement Scholarship