

## TRADE SECRETS LAWYER OF THE YEAR



# ANTHONY HALLER

Partner, Blank Rome LLP

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## ABOUT ANTHONY HALLER

Anthony B. Haller is a member of Blank Rome LLP's Executive Committee, immediate past Chair of the Firm's Employment, Labor & Benefits Group, and leads Blank Rome's Trade Secrets, Employee Defection, and Unfair Competition Group. Blank Rome LLP is an AmLaw 100 law firm with 13 offices and more than 600 attorneys who provide a full range of legal and advocacy services to clients operating in the United States and around the world.

Blank Rome LLP's nationally-recognized Trade Secrets, Employee Defection, and Unfair Competition Group advises clients on protective measures and both prosecutes and defends cases involving violations of non-competition agreements, misappropriation of trade secrets, and unfair competition across the United States and internationally. The practice covers issues of far-reaching importance for clients, both civil and criminal, including those which pose a major threat to a business, such as theft and copying of products in development and breaches of cybersecurity. *Chambers USA* notes that the Firm "maintains a strong profile for its handling of complex trade secrets." Anthony's practice includes:

- Designing and enforcing policies and agreements to protect confidentiality and non-solicitation and post-employment competition, and litigating claims for breach of non-compete agreements, misappropriation of trade secrets, breach of fiduciary duty, and related torts
- Counseling on strategic labor relations, employment issues, and preventative policies
- Litigating civil rights and employment cases including claims of race, age, sex, disability, and reverse discrimination; sexual harassment; wrongful discharge; defamation; and work-related torts
- Handling multiple plaintiff, class, and representative actions involving civil rights and employment claims
- Litigating class actions involving alleged violations of federal and state wage and hour laws
- Counseling, handling, and litigating labor relations issues including collective bargaining negotiations, unfair labor practice proceedings, arbitrations, strikes, picketing, and related injunction proceedings

Anthony is recognized by *Chambers USA* as a leader in his field, stating that he is regarded as a "calming force in difficult circumstances" and is "praised for his strategic capabilities." He has also received "universal praise for his work in employment disputes." *Chambers* has noted him as "a masterful strategist with a great appreciation of practical business concerns, [he] is a driving force at the practice." Clients have stated that he is "an excellent lawyer who would be near the top of anyone's list for employment litigation," "attentive and responsive," "[has a] creative and thoughtful approach," and "shows a full understanding of the complexities of our business." Clients praise Anthony as "an excellent litigator who is very talented in trade secrets work" with "innate attributes as a trial lawyer." Clients say he is "exceptionally well prepared and his presentation in the courtroom is marvelous."

Blank Rome's Trade Secret, Employee Defection, and Unfair Competition group has also been ranked in Lex Machina's "Top Trade Secret Law Firms List" as part of its 2018 "Trade Secret Litigation Report." The Firm earned its spot as one of the top 15 firms for trade secret cases filed between 2009 to 2018 Q2, and is among leading law firms known for their labor and employment and litigation practices.

Anthony was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1979 and practiced as a Barrister in England before coming to the United States.

Anthony has written numerous articles on employment law topics. He co-authored the chapter on "Introduction to Employment Laws of the United States for Foreign Investors" in *Business One Irwin's Business Opportunities in the United States Reference Guide* and the chapter on "Labor Law in the Construction Industry" in Aspen Publications' *Construction Business Handbook*. Anthony is a frequent lecturer on employment law issues and for many years has presented at the Annual Pennsylvania Bar Employment Law Institute. He regularly appears on Law Journal Television. Two of the programs in which he has recently appeared, dealing with sexual orientation and transgender issues in the workplace, won an Emmy from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences MidAtlantic Region and two other programs, dealing with gender pay equality and the gig economy, received Emmy nominations.

The theft of trade secrets and confidential business information is a major and growing threat nationally and globally. Intangible assets make up approximately 84% of the value of American companies; it is estimated that U.S. businesses lose over \$100 billion due to trade secrets theft. In 2016, recognizing the gravity of the threat, the U.S. Congress passed the Defend Trade Secrets Act. Now, more than ever, companies need legal advisers to protect against the theft of trade secrets and the risks of employee defections is in demand. Cybersecurity systems are necessary, but they are vulnerable to insiders who defect to competitors and who compete unfairly.

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