

**PARTNER****THOMAS S. VANGEL**

With extensive experience representing clients in the areas of business litigation and bankruptcy, Tom Vangel's litigation practice includes commercial, banking, franchise, lender liability, director and officer liability, and non-compete litigation. Approximately 50% of Tom's time over the past ten years has been spent representing banking institutions and other lenders in a wide variety of troubled commercial loan matters including workouts, foreclosures, litigation and bankruptcy.

In his bankruptcy practice, in addition to representing banks and other secured lenders, Tom regularly represents Chapter 7 and 11 Trustees, landlords, creditors' committees and unsecured creditors. He also frequently represents corporate clients in defending complex avoidance actions and other litigation brought by bankruptcy estate representatives. Tom has significant trial experience in the state and federal courts in Massachusetts.

Tom has lectured to various groups including the National Association of Credit Management, American Bankruptcy Institute, Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education and the MIT Center for Real Estate. He is a former member of the adjunct faculty at New England School of Law and a former Managing Editor of the New England Law Review.

Tom currently serves as the Co-Chair of the Firm's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Group and as the Chair of the Complex Litigation Practice Group. He served as a member of the Firm's Executive Committee from 2007 through 2012, is the former Chair of the Business Litigation Practice Group and the former Chair of the Firm's Diversity Committee. He served as partner in charge of the Boston office from 2000-2003.

**REPRESENTATIVE CASES:**

- In January and February 2014, successfully represented a publicly traded regional bank in lender liability case involving a failed 108 unit housing development. After a ten day trial in Superior Court, recovered \$4.8 million judgment for the bank client plus attorneys' fees and defeated entirely a \$5.8 million counterclaim asserted by the developer.
- In October 2015, successfully defended a bank client at the Massachusetts Appeals Court in an appeal of the allowance of the bank's motion to strike jury claim where guaranty did not contain jury waiver and Borrower's claims against the bank were alleged to be beyond the scope of jury waiver contained in loan agreement.
- In June 2015, successfully defended an appeal of a summary judgment decision in favor of a bank client relating to claims arising from a failed thirty-six home subdivision financed by the bank where the bank completed all infrastructure work in order to obtain a certificate of completion from the town.



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**BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS**

Massachusetts

United States District Court,  
Massachusetts

**EDUCATION**

New England School of Law, J.D.,  
magna cum laude, 1988

University of Massachusetts, B.A.,  
summa cum laude, 1985

**PRACTICES & INDUSTRIES**

Auto Dealership

Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights

Bankruptcy Litigation

Business Litigation

Community Banking

Distributor, Dealer, Franchise Group

Litigation

Retail & Hospitality

Unfair Competition, Trade  
Secrets and Non-Competition  
Agreements

- Recovered \$11 million judgment for a bank client in the Massachusetts Superior Court on a motion for summary judgment in connection with litigation brought against guarantors of a failed 200 unit condominium development.
- Representing the Chapter 7 Trustee in several matters in the case of In re: Inofin, Inc. currently pending in Boston. Serve as lead counsel in litigation involving the security interest granted to the funding source for this sub-prime automotive lender for an \$8 million portfolio of used car loans.
- Representing the Chapter 7 Trustee in all matters concerning the Bluewater Hld. Corp. case including claims regarding the validity and priority of liens and director and officer liability claims.

### Memberships

- Massachusetts Bar Association (Former member of Trial Practice and Procedure Committee)
- Boston Bar Association, Bankruptcy and Litigation Sections
- American Bankruptcy Institute
- Boston Lawyers Group, Executive Committee, 2009

### Recognition

- Elected to 5 person Executive Committee of Murtha Cullina LLP 2007-2012
- Massachusetts Super Lawyer, 2005-2017
- Best Lawyers in America, 2013-2017
- Holds an AV<sup>®</sup> Preeminent<sup>™</sup> Peer Rating from Martindale-Hubbell

### Community Activities

- South Shore Hospital, Board of Directors, 2005-2016
- Caritas Communities, Inc., Braintree, MA, Director, 1998-2001
- Hingham Yacht Club, Executive Committee, since 2007
- Boston Lawyers Group, Executive Committee since 2010

*With more than 100 attorneys in six offices throughout Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York, Murtha Cullina LLP offers a full range of legal services to meet the local, regional and national needs of our clients. Our practice encompasses litigation, regulatory and transactional representation of businesses, governmental units, non-profit organizations and individuals.*

