

IN THE NEWS

Butzel attorney Mitchell Zajac named to 2023 Class of Rising Stars by 760 WJR and the Detroit Economic Club

Firm News

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DETROIT, Mich. – **Butzel** attorney and shareholder **Mitchell (Mitch) Zajac** has been named by **760 WJR and the Detroit Economic Club (DEC)** to the **Class of 2023 Rising Stars**, comprised of 10 local leaders under the age of 40 who are making an impact in their industries and communities. Each Monday (through August), a new honoree will be interviewed by WJR host Guy Gordon as part of a podcast series. Notably, at the end of September all 10 Rising Stars will be interviewed during a live recognition broadcast.

Zajac is a member of Butzel's Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Group, one of the firm's largest practices areas. His practice also includes a focus on automotive, intellectual property, regulatory and emissions compliance, and sports law, to name a few. He is a registered patent attorney with the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

He has practiced in six federal courts, the U.S. Patent Office, the Court of International Trade, and the U.S. International Trade Commission. Zajac has helped several clients manage and craft IP portfolios in other unique industries, like medicine, light-weighting, and industrial manufacturing. He also has experience in complex patent, trade secret and commercial litigation cases.

In 2022, Zajac was appointed Vice Chair of Western Michigan University (WMU) Cooley Law School Board of Directors. He was named to the Board in 2020. He was named to *DBusiness* magazine's 2022 Class of "30 in Their Thirties." He also was named to *DBusiness* magazine's Top Lawyers of Metro Detroit, Intellectual Property and Patent Law, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Zajac attended WMU-Cooley (J.D., 2017) after graduating from WMU with Bachelors' degrees in Mechanical Engineering and German (2012) and a Master's in Mechanical Engineering (2013).

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He was a Rhodes Scholar finalist (2012); interned for Congressman Fred Upton; and was a four-year starter on the Division I football team at WMU. Zajac was named to *Michigan Lawyers Weekly's* 2020 Class of Up & Coming Lawyers. Moreover, he received the Detroit Bar Association's "One to Watch" Award in 2019. Zajac has been named to *Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch, Commercial Litigation*, 2022 and 2023.