

## **Richard Eric Craig**

- Shareholder

Louisville, KY 877.346.1493 ecraig@weltman.com



#### Eric looks for opportunities to create "win-win" scenarios – for his clients and the firm.

Practicing primarily in real estate default, Richard "Eric" Craig has 15 years of experience representing Fortune 100 companies, as well as small and medium size businesses and individuals. He has worked for some of Kentucky's largest law firms, and has served the government sector as former Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel of the Kentucky Department of Revenue, where he supervised litigation matters and oversaw day-to-day operations.

A dedicated and tenacious attorney, Eric prides himself on "practicing law" as opposed to simply checking boxes and filling out forms. Serving entities large and small – locally or across the country – he helps his clients solve a variety of problems in order to collect the money they're owed. In many cases, he finds that B2B receivables default because the consumer believes they were incorrectly billed, or were unfairly treated. In these instances, Eric uses his strong ability to negotiate so that both parties can walk away satisfied with the outcome.

Eric was once approached by a client who was an entrepreneur that ran a food oil waste bio-fuel company. He needed help negotiating and collecting a buyout from a large corporate partner. The sticking point was that the entrepreneur wanted to keep his company truck. After some back and forth dialogue, Eric was able to successfully negotiate this as part of the buyout, and his client was able to use the asset to start a competing business. Later on when the cash buyout payments to his client defaulted, Eric was instrumental in ensuring 100% of the recoveries were ultimately collected.

As they say in Kentucky, Eric is a "born and bred" Kentuckian. After spending two years in Germany serving in the Army as a Pershing 2 Nuclear Missile Crewmember in the late 80's, he returned home to marry the love of his life and start a family. He has been happily married for 30 years and has five children and three grandchildren. As the father of a special needs child who is the joy of his family, he is an active volunteer with Down Syndrome of Louisville. Another source of joy for Eric is music. He sings in a competitive barbershop quartet and is actively involved with the Barbershop Harmony Society. As part of the Skychai Racing ownership group, he is also passionate about thoroughbred horse racing.

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#### Focus Areas

- Real Estate Default
  - Foreclosure Alternatives
  - Foreclosure & Eviction
  - Real Estate Litigation & Defense

#### Honors & Distinctions

- Graduate Research Fellowship Award, BYU School of Law, 2001
- J. Reuben Clark Research & Writing Award, 2001

#### Admissions

- Kentucky (2001)
- Federal Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky (2010)
- Federal Court for the Western District of Kentucky (2008)
- Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, 2018
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky (2009)
- ▶ U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Kentucky (2009)
- U.S. Tax Court (2001)

#### Education

- J.D., Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark School of Law (2001)
- B.A., History, University of Louisville (1998)

#### Affiliations

- American Bar Association: Member
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society: Louisville, KY Chapter Chair (2004 current)
- Kentucky Bar Association: Member
- Louisville Bar Association: Member
- Barbershop Harmony Society: Member
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints: Crestwood Kentucky Stake, High Council
- Down Syndrome of Louisville: Volunteer