



Ryan C. Valdez

— Attorney

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Known for being driven, detail-oriented, and effective, Ryan takes pride in developing tailored legal strategies that align with each client's unique goals.

Ryan has a strong background in creditors' rights and collections law. Based out of our Chicago office, Ryan brings a results-driven approach to resolving legal matters on behalf of creditors ranging from large, multi-regional corporations to family-owned businesses and individuals.

Before joining Weltman, Ryan spent five years immersed in the collections industry, gaining experience both in and out of the courtroom. Upon earning his J.D. from Lincoln Memorial University's Duncan School of Law and passing the Tennessee Bar in 2024, he was hired on as an associate attorney and compliance director at a Tennessee-based law firm. In this role, he practiced across the state of Tennessee, advocating for creditor clients in probate, commercial, subrogation, and consumer collection matters.

Ryan differentiates himself by staying open to innovative approaches in collections and maintaining a strong commitment to client communication. His clients appreciate his transparency, strategic thinking, and ability to deliver favorable outcomes across a broad range of legal issues. He is an active member of the Tennessee Bar Association, Knoxville Bar Association, American Bar Association, and the Knoxville Latino Bar Association.

Outside of the office, Ryan thrives in competitive environments—whether he's in the courtroom, on the pickleball court, or out on the golf course.

Focus Areas

- ▶ Consumer Collections
- ▶ Subrogation
- ▶ Commercial Collections
- ▶ Probate Recovery

Admissions

- ▶ Illinois, 2025
- ▶ Tennessee, 2024

Education

- ▶ J.D., Lincoln Memorial University Duncan School of Law, 2023
- ▶ B.A., Political Science and Minor in Philosophy, East Tennessee State University, 2019

Affiliations

- ▶ Tennessee Bar Association: Member
- ▶ Knoxville Bar Association: Member
- ▶ American Bar Association: Member
- ▶ Knoxville Latino Bar Association: Member

Publications

- ▶ Weltman's Casey B. Hicks Appointed to Illinois State Bar Association Commercial Banking, Collections, and Bankruptcy Section Council
Weltman News; July 24, 2018
- ▶ Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., LPA Junior Shareholder Casey B. Hicks Receives MReport's Women in Housing Award
Weltman News; September 20, 2017
- ▶ Casey Hicks Announced as New Office Managing Attorney for Weltman in Chicago
Weltman News; January 8, 2016
- ▶ Pleading Requirements for Illinois Mortgage Foreclosure Complaints Altered
Weltman Insights; March 2, 2015
- ▶ Fast Tracking Foreclosures for Abandoned Residential Properties in Illinois
Weltman Insights; May 2, 2014
- ▶ Weltman Welcomes New Attorney in Chicago
Weltman News; January 28, 2014

Presentations

- ▶ "Coffee With Casey: Episode Two - Collateral Recovery,"
Weltman Webinar, June 6, 2022
- ▶ "Coffee With Casey: Coffee With Casey: Episode One - Collecting in the COVID-19 World"
Weltman Webinar, May 5, 2022