



Thomas J. Bender

Co-President and Managing Director

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Focus Areas

Labor Management Relations
ERISA and Benefit Plan Litigation
Executive Compensation

Overview

Tom Bender is Littler's co-president and co-managing director, responsible for the overall strategic direction of the firm's U.S. and global offices. He handles the day-to-day administration and management of the firm. Since his election in 2012, Littler has grown to more than 1,500 attorneys and expanded its global operations with offices in 19 countries spanning three continents. Tom also serves on Littler's board of directors and on the Littler Global board. He has been an instrumental part of firm management for nearly 20 years. Under his leadership, the firm has continued to be recognized as a leader in innovation earning a top ten spot on the Financial Times' 2017 North America Innovative Lawyers Report. He has also been instrumental in advancing the firm's diversity and inclusion efforts with Littler continuing to receive significant recognition by the media, legal industry and clients. He was a founding member of its Philadelphia office where he held the position of office managing shareholder for nine years.

A Chambers-ranked attorney, Tom has more than three decades of experience representing clients in labor relations matters. Prior to his election as co-president and co-managing director, Tom's practice focused on collective bargaining negotiations, arbitrations, organizing drives and unfair labor practice proceedings. He has also represented clients in ERISA and other benefit plan litigation arising from collectively bargained pension and health and welfare plans. Tom has handled a wide variety of claims before the National Labor Relations Board, and federal and state courts, with particular knowledge of The National Labor Relations Act, The Employee Retirement Income Security Act, and the Labor Management Relations Act. He has represented clients in a broad range of industries, including transportation, truck manufacturing, healthcare, energy, waste management and hospitality.

Tom regularly provides commentary in the business and legal media on firm management and legal industry issues and trends.

Professional and Community Affiliations

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Member, Philadelphia Bar Association
- Member, Board of Directors, YMCA of Philadelphia and Vicinity, 2010-2012
- Board Chair, YMCA of Philadelphia and Vicinity, 2010-2012

Recognition

- Named, The Best Lawyers in America®, 2013-2021
- Named, America's Leading Lawyers for Business, *Chambers USA*, 2012-2020
- Awarded, AV® Peer Review Rating, *Martindale-Hubbell*
- Named, Recommended Lawyer, Labor and Employment Disputes in Defense, *Legal 500 United States*, 2016

Education

J.D., Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, 1977

B.S., United States Naval Academy, 1970

Bar Admissions

Pennsylvania

Courts

U.S. Court of Appeals, 3rd Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, 4th Circuit

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania

U.S. District Court, Middle District of Pennsylvania

U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania

U.S. District Court, Western District of Virginia

Publications & Press

Tom Bender: Driving Pay Equity through Technology

Leadership Council on Legal Diversity

September 20, 2020

Best Lawyers in America© 2021 Edition Honors More Than 250 Littler Lawyers

Littler Press Release

August 20, 2020

Littler CaseSmart® Celebrates 10th Anniversary

Littler Press Release

August 12, 2020

Littler Mexico Launches NOM-035 Survey Tool to Assist Employers with Compliance

Littler Press Release

July 27, 2020

Littler México Lanza La Herramienta Littler | Encuesta NOM-035 Para Ayudar A Los Empleadores En El Cumplimiento De Obligaciones

Littler Press Release

July 27, 2020

The NLJ 500: Where Are Women Winning?

The National Law Journal

June 23, 2020

Littler Expands to Poland with 20-Lawyer Firm Paruch Chrusciel Schiffter Joining its Global Platform

Littler Press Release

June 1, 2020

'All Hands on Deck' for Labor and Employment Firms Facing Flood of Employer Questions

Daily Report

March 13, 2020

Littler Continues Global Growth with Expansion into Austria

Littler Press Release

February 18, 2020

Littler Recognized in Financial Times 2019 North America Innovative Lawyers Report

Littler Press Release

December 11, 2019

Littler Attorneys in Venezuela Earn Best Lawyers© Recognition

Littler Press Release

December 6, 2019

Littler Attorneys Named to 2020 Best Lawyers in Mexico©

Littler Press Release

December 2, 2019

Littler Expands into Asia with Singapore Office

Littler Press Release

November 12, 2019

Littler Celebrates 10 Years in Rochester

Littler Press Release

October 29, 2019

Littler Appoints Susan Fitzke as Minneapolis Office Managing Shareholder

Littler Press Release

October 9, 2019

Littler Attorneys in Canada and Puerto Rico Named to 2020 Best Lawyers™ List

Littler Press Release

August 21, 2019

Best Lawyers in America© 2020 Edition Honors More Than 200 Littler Lawyers; 14 Named Lawyer of the Year

Littler Press Release

August 15, 2019

Littler Shareholder Jeffrey B. Jones Appointed Miami Office Managing Shareholder

Littler Press Release

August 15, 2019

Littler Shareholder Jacqueline Phipps Polito Appointed Rochester Office Managing Shareholder

Littler Press Release

August 1, 2019

Littler Named One of the “Best Law Firms For Women” by Working Mother

Littler Press Release

July 16, 2019

Littler Named Top Labor and Employment Firm in 2020 Vault Guide and Ranks in Several Diversity Categories

Littler Press Release

June 26, 2019

College of Labor and Employment Lawyers Elects Littler's Theodore A. Schroeder as Fellow

Littler Press Release

June 24, 2019

Littler Shareholder Ryan Hammond Appointed Seattle Office Managing Shareholder

Littler Press Release

May 23, 2019

Littler Named in 2019 BTI Brand Elite

Littler Press Release

May 16, 2019

Littler Ranked in 2019 Chambers USA Guide

Littler Press Release

April 25, 2019

Littler Named Top Ten Firm for Gender Equity

Littler Press Release

April 16, 2019

Littler Shareholder Mishell Parreno Taylor Appointed San Diego Office Managing Shareholder

Littler Press Release

April 1, 2019

Littler Earns 11th Consecutive 100 Percent in 2019 Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Annual Scorecard on LGBTQ Workplace Equality

Littler Press Release

March 28, 2019

Four Littler Attorneys Named BTI "Client Service All-Stars"

Littler Press Release

March 28, 2019

Littler Names New Leadership to Its Affinity Groups and Diversity & Inclusion Council

Littler Press Release

February 14, 2019

Littler Adds Oslo-Based Hombles Olsby to Global Platform, Marking Firm's Entry into Scandinavia

Littler Press Release

January 23, 2019

Littler Shareholder Robert Friedman Appointed Austin, Dallas and Fayetteville Office Managing Shareholder

Littler Press Release

January 2, 2019

Littler Named to BTI Client Service A-Team 2019

Littler Press Release

December 13, 2018

Littler Launches Madison Office with Addition of Special Counsel Michael Gotzler

Littler Press Release

December 3, 2018

Law Firm Brass Say Clients Won't Let The Billable Hour Die

Law360

November 29, 2018

Littler Opens Fifth Office in Germany with Frankfurt Location

Littler Press Release

October 31, 2018

Littler Ranked Litigation Powerhouse in BTI Litigation Outlook 2019 Report

Littler Press Release

October 18, 2018

The Eight Firms GCs Want For Employment Work

Law360

October 17, 2018

Law Firm Leaders: Littler's Tom Bender and Jeremy Roth

Law360

September 19, 2018

Littler Enters Belgium with 20-Lawyer Firm Reliance Joining its Global Platform

Littler Press Release

September 11, 2018

Littler Named 2019 BTI Innovation Champion

Littler Press Release

September 6, 2018

Littler Receives Mansfield Certification Plus From Diversity Lab

Littler Press Release

August 20, 2018

Best Lawyers in America© 2019 Edition Honors More Than 200 Littler Lawyers

Littler Press Release

August 15, 2018

Littler and Canine Companions For Independence® Announce Strategic Partnership

Littler Press Release

July 30, 2018

Littler Named Top Labor and Employment Firm in 2019 Vault Guide

Littler Press Release

June 29, 2018

Littler Receives Excellence in Diversity Award from Allstate

Littler Press Release

June 21, 2018

Littler Ranked in 2018 Chambers USA Guide

Littler Press Release

May 15, 2018

Littler Enters Fifth European Country with Dutch Employment Firm CLINT Joining its Global Platform

Littler Press Release

May 1, 2018

Littler Named Top Ten Female Friendly Firm by Yale Law Women

Littler Press Release

April 18, 2018

Maury Baskin Named Co-Chair of Littler's Esteemed Workplace Policy Institute

Littler Press Release

February 15, 2018

Littler Expands Pay Equity Audit Capabilities with New Offering

Littler Press Release

February 14, 2018

Littler Expands European Footprint with Move into Italy

Littler Press Release

January 18, 2018

Aaron Crews Rejoins Littler as Chief Data Analytics Officer

Littler Press Release

January 9, 2018

Littler Ranks Among Top 25 Law Firms in Financial Times' 2017 North America Innovative Lawyers Report

Littler Press Release

December 12, 2017

Littler Attorneys in Mexico and Venezuela Earn Best Lawyers® Recognition

Littler Press Release

December 1, 2017

Littler Earns Spot on BTI Client Service A-Team 2018 List

Littler Press Release

November 28, 2017

Littler Earns 10th Consecutive 100 Percent in 2018 Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Annual Scorecard on LGBTQ Workplace Equality

Littler Press Release

November 9, 2017

U.S. News - Best Lawyers® 2018 "Best Law Firms" List Honors Littler with Tier 1 Rankings

Littler Press Release

November 1, 2017

Littler Receives 2017 Hope Award for Diversity from the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Silicon Valley

Littler Press Release

October 19, 2017

Littler Shareholder William Emanuel Confirmed to Serve on National Labor Relations Board

Littler Press Release

September 25, 2017

Littler Named Employment Litigation Powerhouse in BTI Litigation Outlook 2018 Report

Littler Press Release

September 12, 2017

The Best Firms for Women and Minority Attorneys

Law360

August 28, 2017

Littler Honored by Lambda Legal with Partners for Equality Award

Littler Press Release

August 18, 2017

Best Lawyers in America® 2018 Edition Honors More Than 200 Littler Lawyers

Littler Press Release

August 17, 2017

Littler Recognized for “Raising the Bar” by Equality Illinois

Littler Press Release

August 10, 2017

Littler Selected as One of the 2017 “Best Law Firms for Women” by Working Mother

Littler Press Release

July 25, 2017

Littler Ranked as Top Labor and Employment Law Firm for Fifth Consecutive Year by Vault

Littler Press Release

June 28, 2017

Littler Awarded Women In Law Empowerment Forum’s Gold Standard Certification

Littler Press Release

June 8, 2017

Littler and Its Attorneys Receive Top Rankings in 2017 Chambers USA Guide

Littler Press Release

May 26, 2017

Littler Continues Global Growth and Strengthens European Presence Through Combination with GQ Employment Law in the United Kingdom

Littler Press Release

May 9, 2017

Littler Receives Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion Award from Starbucks

Littler Press Release

February 13, 2017

How to Convince Risk-Averse Partners to Invest Big

Law360

January 24, 2017

LGBT Equality A Firm Priority

The Indiana Lawyer

December 14, 2016

Littler Earns Top Marks in 2017 Corporate Equality Index by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation

Littler Press Release

December 5, 2016

Littler Mendelson Gambles on Data Mining as Competition Changes

Law.com

October 26, 2016

The Best Lawyers in America® Honors More Than 180 Littler Lawyers in Its 2017 Edition

Littler Press Release

August 16, 2016

Littler Ranks in The Legal 500 United States Guide

Littler Press Release

June 20, 2016

Chambers USA Recognizes Littler and Attorneys in 2016 Guide

Littler Press Release

May 27, 2016

Firms Throw Off Caution and Enter the Digital Arena

Financial Times

December 8, 2015

Legal Tech Traction Breeds Satisfaction

Legaltech News

December 3, 2015

Littler Global Enters Europe with Expansion Into Germany

Littler Press Release

October 5, 2015

Littler Attorneys Recognized in the Best Lawyers in America© 2016 Edition

Littler Press Release

August 18, 2015

Littler Opens Global Services Center in Kansas City

Littler Press Release

August 12, 2015

Chambers USA Recognizes Littler and Its Attorneys

Littler Press Release

May 20, 2015

Top 3 Employment Boutiques Gain As Rivals See Drop-Off

Law360.com

March 24, 2015

Five local firms score well in LGBT equality

Lawyers Journal

December 26, 2014

Littler Attorneys Included in the Best Lawyers in America© 2015 Edition

Littler Press Release

August 18, 2014

Globalized Corporate Clients Push Law Firms To Drop HQs

Law360.com

August 4, 2014

Littler seeks to retell the story of the Swiss verein

Daily Journal

June 18, 2014

Littler and Its Attorneys Ranked In 2014 Chambers USA Guide

Littler Press Release

May 23, 2014

Littler Names Lisa “Lee” Schreter as Chair of Board of Directors

Littler Press Release

January 28, 2014

Littler welcomes Puerto Rican firm into the fold

Daily Journal

December 10, 2013

Littler Adds to Growing Global Network

American Lawyer

December 9, 2013

Littler Attorneys Named in Best Lawyers in America® 2014 Edition

Littler Press Release

August 15, 2013

Littler Mendelson Named in the 2013 Chambers USA Guide

Littler Press Release

May 24, 2013

Best Lawyers in America® Names 164 Littler Attorneys to 2013 Edition

Littler Press Release

September 7, 2012

Littler Mendelson Names Phila. Lawyer As Co-President

The Legal Intelligencer

August 22, 2012

The Churn: Lateral Moves and Promotions in the Am Law 200

Am Law Daily

August 21, 2012

Littler Mendelson announces new co-presidents

International Financial Law Review

August 21, 2012

Littler Mendelson chooses two presidents

Daily Journal

August 21, 2012

Roth named co-president of Littler Mendelson

San Diego Daily Transcript

August 20, 2012

Bender named co-president of Littler Mendelson

Philadelphia Business Journal

August 20, 2012

Littler Elects New Leaders to Advance the Firm's Global Platform of Specialized Labor and Employment Services

Littler Press Release

August 20, 2012

Phila. rally is test of labor's clout

Philadelphia Inquirer

August 12, 2012

Chambers USA Honors Littler And Its Attorneys

Littler Press Release

June 27, 2011

Automatic Meal-Break Class Action Against Hospital Dismissed, Preempted by LMRA

Littler ASAP

October 5, 2010

Littler Attorneys Honored by Chambers USA

Littler Press Release

June 21, 2010

Littler Mendelson Announces New Philadelphia Office Managing Shareholder

Littler Press Release

February 1, 2010

Tom Bender Notes Restrictions on Political Talk in the Workplace

Bucks County Courier

November 5, 2006

Speaking Engagements

2019 Canada Conference

Toronto, ON

November 21, 2019

5a Conferencia Anual en Monterrey

Hotel Sheraton Monterrey Ambassador Monterrey, Nuevo León

October 3, 2019

Fifth Annual Conference in Monterrey

Monterrey, NLE
October 3, 2019

Cuarta Conferencia Anual en Monterrey

Monterrey, NLE
November 15, 2018

Fourth Annual Conference in Monterrey

Monterrey, NLE
November 15, 2018

Cuarta Conferencia Anual en Ciudad de México

México City
November 14, 2018

Fourth Annual Conference in Mexico City

México City
November 14, 2018

Tercera Conferencia Anual en Ciudad de México

México City
September 27, 2017

Third Annual Conference in Mexico City

México City
September 27, 2017

Tercera Conferencia Anual en Monterrey

Monterrey, NLE
September 26, 2017

Third Annual Conference in Monterrey

Monterrey, NLE
September 26, 2017

Inaugural Canada Conference

Toronto, ON
November 21, 2016

Segunda Conferencia Anual en México - Ciudad de México

México City

October 5, 2016

Second Annual Mexico Conference - Mexico City

México City

October 5, 2016

Second Annual Mexico Conference - Monterrey

Monterrey, NLE

October 4, 2016

Segunda Conferencia Anual en México - Monterrey

Monterrey, NLE

October 4, 2016

Littler Global Primera Conferencia en México y Monterrey

W Ciudad de México Calle Campos Elíseos 252, Miguel Hidalgo, Polanco, 11560 México, Distrito Federal

November 11, 2015

Littler Global Mexico Conference

W Mexico City Calle Campos Elíseos 252, Miguel Hidalgo, Polanco, 11560 Mexico City, D.F., Mexico

November 11, 2015

Littler Global Primera Conferencia en México y Monterrey

NH Collection Monterrey Av. José Vasconcelos 402, Valle de Santa Engracia, 66268 San Pedro Garza García, NL, México

November 10, 2015

Littler Global Mexico Conference

NH Collection Monterrey Av Jose Vasconcelos 402, Valle de Santa Engracia, 66268 San Pedro Garza García, NL, Mexico

November 10, 2015