PALLETT VALO LLP
Lawyers



"Leading by example."

John Russo

Managing Partner

Follow on LinkedIn

289.805.4625

Email

In his role as Managing Partner, John is responsible for guiding Pallett Valo's Canadian and international strategies while championing the firm's core beliefs and philosophy.

Through his leadership, he strives to incorporate the firm's values of excellence, integrity and respect in everyday operations. John believes the best way to serve clients is to understand their industry and business environment and align them with the right expertise, experience and value.

With a broad and diverse commercial litigation practice, John represents clients in complex business litigation disputes, real estate litigation, commercial tenancy disputes, defamation, product liability, expropriation, shareholder disputes, contractual disputes, creditor remedies, PPSA security disputes, asset recovery, enforcement of security and provincial offences and regulatory matters. He regularly appears before the Superior Court of Justice and the Ontario Court of Appeal.

His clients range from mid-size and large companies across various industry sectors, financial institutions, religious and charitable organizations. The *Mississauga News* featured his involvement in advising clients on expropriation matters relating to the Hurontario LRT.

Actively involved in his community, John has worked closely with local government and community agencies who received funding from the United Way of Peel Region during his tenure as member of the board and chair of that organization.

Expertise

- Commercial Litigation
- Employment & Labour
- Administrative Law

- Advising on BIA Proceedings
- Advising on CCAA Proceedings
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (Arbitration & Mediation)
- Appeals
- Arbitration
- Commercial Disputes
- Commercial Receiverships
- Commercial Tenancy Disputes
- Contract Disputes
- Corporate and Shareholder Disputes
- Corporate Bankruptcy Petitions
- Creditor Remedies
- Creditor/Debtor Rights
- Cross Border Transactions
- Defamation
- Employment Litigation
- Enforcement of Securities, Asset and Debt Recovery
- Expropriation
- Financial, Mortgage and Title Fraud
- Injunctive Remedies
- Mortgage Enforcement
- Mortgage Remedies
- Priority Disputes
- Product Liability
- Professional Liability and Negligence
- Real Estate and Land Development Litigation
- Regulatory Liability
- Restrictive Covenants (Confidentiality, Non-Solicitation and Intellectual Property Agreements)
- Risk Management
- Secured and Unsecured Transactions
- Trademark Infringement and Passing-Off Litigation

Industries

- Architecture and Engineering
- Automotive
- Banking
- Construction

- Distribution
- Healthcare
- Insurance
- Land Development
- Municipal/Government
- Public Infrastructure
- Transportation/Logistics

Education

B.A., University of Toronto (1992)
J.D., Thomas M. Cooley Law School (Michigan) (1996)
Osgoode Hall Law School (NCA) (1997-1998)

Called to the New Jersey State Bar, 1997
Called to the New York State Bar, 1998
Called to the Ontario Bar, 1999

Awards

- Peel Law Association Honours Pallett Valo's John Russo With Its Inaugural Civility Award
- Pallett Valo Ranked #2 on Top 10 Ontario Regional Law Firm List

Memberships

- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, The Advocates' Society
- Member, Toronto Lawyers' Association
- Member, Peel Law Association
- Member, Ontario Expropriation Association
- Member, Canadian Finance & Leasing Association
- Past Chair (2014-2016), Board of Directors (2011-2017), United Way of Peel Region

Publications

- Canadian Lawyer Names Ontario's Top Regional Law Firms for 2025-2026 March 2025
- Top Ontario Regional Firms 2025–26 March 2025
- Reaching for the Stars: Our Second Annual Legal Workplace Survey December 2021
- Ontario Superior Court Applies New Non-Enforcement Provisions in the Commercial Tenancies Act January 2021
- Ontario Government Enacts Legislation to Protect Commercial Tenants Amid Shutdowns January 2021
- Change breeds opportunity: Ontario's top regional firms 2019-2020 March 2019
- New Managing Partner October 2017

- Property Expropriation Underway for Hurontario LRT May 2017
- New leadership for Pallett Valo October 2017

Other Publications and Presentations

- “What Should I look for in a Disclosure Document”, Franchise Canada Magazine – December 2008
- “Enforcing Judgements Quickly and Effectively”, Lumbermen’s & Mercantile Credit Bureau – June 2016
- “The Impact of an Insolvent Landlord or Tenant”, The Law Society of Upper Canada – February 2012
- “Credit Applications and Contracts”, 2008 Annual Lumbermen’s Credit Conference – January 2008
- “Trial Preparation & Evidence Issues”, The Institute of Law Clerks of Ontario – June 2007
- “Enforcing Judgements Quickly and Effectively”, Law Society of Upper Canada – March 2005

Pallett Valo LLP will, upon request, provide this information in an accessible format.

GGi INDEPENDENT MEMBER