



Julian R. Ellis, Jr.

Associate

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Denver, Colorado

Julian Ellis has developed significant experience in a short time handling a variety of disputes. He represents sophisticated clients in commercial, political and public law matters. Prior to joining the firm, Julian served as a law clerk to Chief Judge Timothy M. Tymkovich of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and was a litigation associate at a national trial firm in Denver.

Before pursuing a career in law, Julian worked for five years in the financial services industry. He worked for both private businesses and large financial institutions, primarily concentrating on publicly traded entities. Julian's background gives him a unique business perspective and appreciation for the pressures companies face and the considerations that inform client priorities. Julian reflects this awareness in his approach to dispute resolution.

Representative Matters

Commercial Litigation

- Lead counsel for plaintiff in a breach-of-contract trial in Colorado. The court ordered the defendant to pay full damages plus attorneys' fees and costs.
- Lead counsel for respondent in a multimillion-dollar arbitration in Florida. The arbitration resulted in zero liability to the defendant-manufacturer.
- Arbitration counsel for claimant in an oil and gas dispute. Obtained a multimillion-dollar award that was 15 times more than the last settlement offer.
- Litigation counsel for AmLaw 200 firm in a professional liability lawsuit involving claims of malpractice, breach of fiduciary duty and other business torts. The plaintiff claimed in excess of \$20 million dollars. The matter resolved favorably days before trial.
- Litigation counsel for several state funds (including Colorado) in recovering millions related to underground storage tank litigation.
- Class-action counsel for national insurer. Obtained summary judgment against a putative class action alleging violations of Colorado law.

Issues and Appeals

- Principal drafter of amicus brief in an appeal before the U.S. Supreme Court concerning whether the Eighth Amendment limits cities' ability to enforce camping ordinances. Cert petition pending.
- Appointed lead pro bono counsel by the Tenth Circuit to brief and argue a prisoner's rights appeal involving claims of unconstitutional conditions of confinement in an Oklahoma prison. The Tenth Circuit reversed the district court's dismissal order and remanded the case for further proceedings. *Womble v. Chrisman*, 770 F. App'x 918 (10th Cir. 2019).
- Lead amicus counsel for public interest group in an appeal before the Colorado Supreme Court involving a mass shooting in Colorado Springs. Cert granted.
- Appellate counsel for national insurer in a class-action appeal involving a novel statutory interpretation question. *Allen v. USAA*, 907 F.3d 1230 (10th Cir. 2018).
- Lead appellate counsel for mother of two in a case of first impression involving whether courts may

retroactively relinquish parents' support obligations. *In re Marriage of Gross*, 371 P.3d 744 (Colo. App. 2016)

- Principal drafter of briefs before the Colorado Supreme Court and the Colorado Court of Appeals successfully defending a cost award.

Practices

Government Relations, Political & Regulatory Law, Litigation, Political & Regulatory Law

Community

Tenth Circuit Historical Society, Corporate Secretary

University of Denver, Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, Coach and Arbitrator

University of Denver Professional Mentoring Program, Participant

University of Denver Law Alumni Council, Member (2014–2016)

Boykin Spaniel Rescue & Operation Little Brown Dog, Foster Parent

Publications & Presentations

- Colorado Civil Claims: Elements, Defenses and Sample Pleadings, 2019 Edition, Author, Chapter on Product Liability - Warranties, *CBA-CLE*, 2019
- A Comparative Law Approach: Enforceability of Arbitration Agreements in American Insolvency Proceedings, Author, *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*, Vol. 92, No. 1, 2018
- RFRA: Circuits Split on "Compelling Government Interest," Co-author, *American Bankruptcy Institute Journal*, November 2015
- The "Common Practice" of Bundling: Fact or Fiction?, Author, *Denver Law Review*, April 19, 2019
- Natural Persons, Unnatural Law: Conflict for Corporate Debtors Between § 548(d)(3)(A) and RFRA, Co-author, *American Bankruptcy Institute Journal*, March 2014
- Comment, *Florence v. Board of Chosen Freeholders: The Resurrection of Bell v. Wolfish and the Questions to Follow*, Author, *Denver Law Review*, 2013
- Limited Liability Company Operating Agreements: Can Creditors Restrict a Borrower's Ability to File for Bankruptcy Protection?, Co-author, *Denver Law Review*, 2013
- Norton Bankruptcy Law & Practice 3d, Author, Chapter on "Arbitration Agreements in Bankruptcy," *Thomson West*, 2012

Education

- J.D., 2014, Order of St. Ives and Order of the Coif, University of Denver Sturm College of Law
- M.B.A., 2009, Valdosta State University, Langdale College of Business
- B.B.A., 2007, Valdosta State University, Langdale College of Business

Admissions

- Colorado
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Recognition

Denver University Law Review, Articles Editor

Robert J. Jackson Scholar

American Bankruptcy Institute Medal of Excellence

Krendl Business Planning Award

Hartje Writing Award

Outstanding Langdale College of Business M.B.A. Student

Membership

Supreme Court Historical Society

Tenth Circuit Historical Society

Federal Faculty of Advocates

The Federalist Society

Colorado Bar Association

Denver Bar Association

Moot Alumni Association