

LITIGATION

At Burns Figa & Will, we take great pride in our proven track record of success which is based on our knowledge and understanding of our clients' businesses and goals. As a result, our litigation attorneys deliver exceptional value to our clients. These goals – **delivery of exceptional value, collaborating with our clients for results, and possessing a unique depth of trial skill and experience – are the hallmark of the success of our litigation efforts.**

Roughly half of Burns Figa & Will's attorneys are involved in litigation and dispute resolution. Our litigators are experienced in all aspects of dispute resolution, including negotiation, mediation and arbitration. When a trial is necessary, our attorneys are skilled in discovery matters, motion practice, and in trial. **The members of our litigation practice group are not just litigators, they are first-rate trial lawyers.**

Each year, we try a number of cases to conclusion before juries, judges, and arbitrators. As necessary to achieve our clients' objectives, we pursue and argue appeals to higher courts, including state and federal supreme courts and state and federal courts of appeals. The result is excellence in service to our clients. With these strengths, we are able to implement creative pre-litigation strategies to seek favorable solutions without our clients ever having to see the inside of a courtroom. But, if going to court is the best and only way to achieve our client's goals, we strategically employ an imaginative and aggressive professional approach, marked by thorough and meticulous preparation, to protect and advance our client's best interests.

Our litigators are experienced in the management of large, complex cases and often work with technical experts, including attorneys from our other practice areas, to effectively further the interests of our clients. At the outset, we work hard to be sure we understand a client's desires, needs, goals and objectives. We use a team approach so as to keep litigation costs as low to our client as is reasonably possible. A senior litigator is always involved, however, so as to provide a point of contact for a client and to provide leadership, guidance, and mentorship to our younger attorneys.

For more than 20 years, this approach has led to positive outcomes for our clients -- individuals, large and small private and public companies, and governmental clients. Over the years, we have represented clients in federal and state courts around the country, including in large class actions, multi-district litigation, investigations conducted by the Securities and Exchange Commission and state securities regulatory agencies, and the United States Justice Department. Our litigation attorneys have the experience and the resources to provide our clients with the best possible representation in intellectual property disputes, including the defense of claims of infringement or misappropriation, and in business related litigation, including breach of contract disputes, trade secret litigation, unfair competition disputes, fraud, and breach of fiduciary duty litigation.

Commercial Litigation

Our commercial litigation practice focuses on the types of disputes most frequently encountered by our business clients and includes:

- ▶ Complex Contract Disputes
- ▶ Antitrust Litigation
- ▶ Commercial Lease Disputes and Litigation
- ▶ Employer-Employee Disputes
- ▶ Sports Law Litigation
- ▶ Trademark, Trade Secret, Trade Dress, and Copyright Litigation
- ▶ Business Tort Litigation

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- ▶ Real Estate Litigation
- ▶ Securities Fraud Litigation

Employment Litigation

We also maintain specialized expertise in employment law and litigation. We represent both employers and employees in employment-related disputes including:

- ▶ Discrimination Based on Sex, Age, Race, Religion, or National Origin
- ▶ Substance Abuse in the Workplace Issues
- ▶ Family Medical Leave Act Issues
- ▶ Americans with Disabilities Act Claims
- ▶ Employee Handbook Matters
- ▶ Compensation Issues

Environmental Litigation

Our environmental litigators work hand-in-glove with our widely recognized environmental legal team. Matters routinely handled by our environmental litigation attorneys include:

- ▶ Contaminated Properties
- ▶ Asbestos Removal Litigation
- ▶ Solid and Hazardous Waste
- ▶ Oil and Gas Litigation
- ▶ Underground Storage Tanks
- ▶ Permitting Disputes
- ▶ Water Rights Litigation

Real Estate Litigation

Our litigators represent many clients in disputes over title to real property, sometimes in conjunction with the client's title insurance company. We represent both plaintiffs and defendants in real estate disputes such as:

- ▶ Claims for Adverse Possession
- ▶ Real Property Access Issues
- ▶ Claims for Prescriptive Easements
- ▶ Private Condemnation of Rights-of-Way
- ▶ Litigation Over Public Roads and Streets
- ▶ Quiet Title Actions
- ▶ Foreclosure Actions

White Collar Criminal Defense and Internal Corporate Investigations

We also specialize in the representation of individuals and companies under investigation for, or charged with, violating federal or state criminal laws. Our firm is experienced in defending individuals and companies in, among other matters:

- ▶ Criminal Securities Fraud Investigations and Prosecutions
- ▶ Insider Trading Allegations
- ▶ Tax Fraud
- ▶ Computer Fraud
- ▶ Development of Corporate Compliance Programs and Policies
- ▶ Internal Corporate Investigations of Allegations of Misconduct

Attorneys Practicing in this Area

[Geoffrey Anderson](#)

[Matt Dillman](#)

[Dana Eismeier](#)

[Candace Figa](#)

[Alix Joseph](#)

[Mike Norton](#)

[Sean Velarde](#)

[Genevieve Bernal](#)

[Brad O'Brien](#)

[Jennifer Osgood](#)

[Merc Pittinos](#)

[Julie Schmidt](#)

[Bernie Gehris](#)