

Utah

A majority of law firms are located in the densely-populated Salt Lake City. With more than 85 percent of the state's population located within the city's metropolitan area, most firms have found it fitting to remain in practice there.

Highly recommended firms

Best known for its plaintiffs' work, Salt Lake City firm **Burbidge Mitchell & Gross** is also noted for its commercial and business litigation and work in class actions. The team of six attorneys is equipped to take on matters involving antitrust, securities, banking, contract and real estate. Intellectual property remains another strong suit, with experience in trademark and trade secrets. In antitrust matters, the firm handles disputes in various industries, including pharmaceuticals, automobiles and oil and gas. Tobacco class action litigation is another staple, with participation in the "Castano Consortium of Tobacco Attorneys" and counseling in several high-profile pieces of litigation across the country.

A majority of name partner **Richard Burbidge's** practice is devoted to litigation, with class action work of especial note. Working as the firm's managing partner, he also takes on complex commercial work, securities, antitrust, patent work and personal injury.

Besides its flagship location in Salt Lake City, **Parsons Behle & Latimer** also maintains offices in Las Vegas and Reno, Nev. The Utah office boasts a team of 58 litigators, with patent work, natural resources and dispute resolution high focus points for the firm. The firm's practice is not limited to Utah or the west. In a recent intellectual property matter for client Invitrogen, the firm received a jury verdict resulting in a \$20 million judgment in favor of its client in a patent infringement matter in Austin, Texas. Another patent infringement matter in Maryland led to a favorable settlement. The firm represented US Magnesium in a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and Toxic Substances Control Act matter, with the firm winning summary judgment. In a recent Superfund matter, Parsons Behle & Latimer represented Basic Management and its affiliates. Other firm clients include Stericycle, Dyno Nobel, Danaher and Baker Hughes.

Generalist **Francis Wikstrom** litigates "significant cases" and focuses on complex civil litigation and white-collar criminal work. Since joining the firm in 1982, he has

tried cases in a variety of jurisdictions running the gamut of areas, from patent infringement and trade secrets to Superfund work. Wikstrom assists in the representation of US Magnesium and Invitrogen in its most recent litigation. Partner **David Mangum** practices within the firm's litigation and intellectual property and technology departments, representing clients in antitrust and intellectual property matters across the country. "Dave Mangum is one of the, if not the, best IP litigators, certainly in the region," praises one peer. In a pending matter for Baker Hughes, a client for more than 20 years, Mangum represents the oilfield service company in a patent infringement action in the Eastern District of Texas regarding fixed cutter drill bits technology. "David Mangum and Fran Wikstrom have done a lot of IP cases," says one insider of the two stars.

Established in 1991, the Salt Lake City office of southwest powerhouse **Snell & Wilmer** boasts an attorney base of 50 lawyers. A majority of the roster is devoted to litigation, with expertise in commercial work and products liability. Clients include Children's Miracle Network, Ford, Gap, T-Mobile and the University of Utah. Partner **Alan Sullivan**, with more than 30 years of legal experience in the state, focuses his practice on commercial work, intellectual property, healthcare and securities.

Recommended firms

With offices throughout the west, including powerful shops in Nevada, Colorado and Arizona, **Holland & Hart's** Salt Lake City office is garnering quite the reputation for litigation in the state. Joining Utah's legal market in 1994, the four-person regional office has grown to include 40 attorneys, able in areas including banking, environmental, intellectual property, labor and employment, natural resources, real estate, as well as a thriving litigation practice.

More than 45 attorneys are based out of the Salt Lake City office of regional firm **Holme Roberts & Owen**. The office's largest practice area is litigation, with attorneys experienced in trial and appellate work in both federal and state courts. Complex

Local litigation firms

Highly recommended

Burbidge Mitchell & Gross

Parsons Behle & Latimer

Snell & Wilmer

Recommended

Holland & Hart

Holme Roberts & Owen

Howrey

Parr Brown Gee & Loveless

Ray Quinney & Nebeker

Stoel Rives

"Dave Mangum is one of the, if not the, best IP litigators, certainly in the region,' praises one peer."

-Parsons Behle & Latimer



Local litigation stars

Gary Bendinger
Howrey

Richard Burbidge
Burbidge Mitchell & Gross

George Haley
Holme Roberts & Owen

James Jardine
Ray Quinney & Nebeker

David Mangum
Parsons Behle & Latimer

Alan Sullivan
Snell & Wilmer

Clark Waddoups
Parr Brown Gee & Loveless

Francis Wikstrom
Parsons Behle & Latimer

Future stars

James Ahlstrom
Parr Brown Gee & Loveless

Troy Booher
Snell & Wilmer

Erik Christiansen
Parsons Behle & Latimer

John Delaney
Parsons Behle & Latimer

Jonathan Hafen
Parr Brown Gee & Loveless

Matthew Lalli
Snell & Wilmer

Michael Petrogeorge
Parsons Behle & Latimer

Justin Toth
Ray Quinney & Nebeker

litigation remains at the forefront, with specific expertise in employment, securities, environmental, intellectual property, antitrust, insurance and construction matters. In a recent class action, the firm recovered more than \$50 million on behalf of the class.

Managing partner **George Haley's** grasp on complex commercial work is made even more apparent through his successes. He obtained a summary judgment for one client, dismissing all the plaintiff's claims in a legal malpractice matter. In his co-lead counsel defense of Questar in a \$500 million claim for fraud and breach of fiduciary duty brought by Kinder Morgan, a final judgment dismissed all of the plaintiff's claims and awarded his client \$110 million on its counterclaim. Haley's representative experience includes work for clients US West and the Roman Catholic School District.

interference judgment. Client Technology Integration Group was embroiled in a nine-year dispute with Salt Lake City-based Access Microsystems. According to case documents, TIG claimed Access Microsystems employees made false allegations of bribery and fraud against TIG to prevent an account being switched from Access Microsystems to TIG. Damages were awarded to TIG in the amount of \$2.38 million.

Senior partner **Clark Waddoups** specializes in complex commercial litigation involving antitrust disputes, securities, labor and employment, among other subspecialties. His robust client base includes heavyweights in various industries, from broadcasting to banking and finance.

With a history dating back nearly 70 years, **Ray Quinney & Nebeker** has seen expansion in recent years. Now, the firm, with a flagship

“Drawing upon other offices in the area, including shops in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Silicon Valley and Orange County, Calif., the Utah office of international firm Howrey is equipped with the resources for a strong litigation presence in the state.”

Drawing upon other offices in the area, including shops in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Silicon Valley and Orange County, Calif., the Utah office of international firm **Howrey** is equipped with the resources for a strong litigation presence in the state. Specialties within the Salt Lake City office are commercial litigation, securities, antitrust and white-collar work. The 18 attorneys devoted to litigation are noted for their “focused” approach in and out of the courtroom. Firmwide clients include Caterpillar, Nestle, Union Pacific, Boston Scientific and Proctor & Gamble.

With more than 30 years of courtroom experience, **Gary Bendinger** expands his litigation experience through his position as co-chair of the firm's global litigation practice and managing partner of the Utah office. A complex commercial litigator, Bendinger is experienced in several jurisdictions, including California, New York, and the District of Columbia regarding issues of antitrust and securities. Taking over for another firm, he was hired as lead trial counsel in a high-profile securities case, where he eventually achieved a favorable judgment for his client following a five-week trial.

A comprehensive commercial litigation practice is at the core of **Parr Brown Gee & Loveless'** methodology. Able in several areas, including antitrust, securities, insurance coverage and defense, employment and construction, the litigation team recently saw success in a defamation and business

office in Salt Lake City and a branch office in Provo, maintains an attorney base of more than 100 lawyers. The multiservice firm is especially able in litigation, with the litigation group the largest practice group within the firm. A majority of the practice is devoted to defense litigation, although a number of matters involve plaintiff's representation in noncommercial disputes. The diverse litigation group handles an array of coverage, including commercial matters, insurance, malpractice defense, personal injury, real estate and employment.

Firm president **James Jardine** is regarded as a leader in the state's litigation market. With commercial litigation his specialty, Jardine represents local and national companies in matters both in and out of Utah's boundaries. His focus is on the defense and prosecution of complex business, antitrust, securities and intellectual property litigation. While currently of-counsel, Jardine is on an extended leave of absence from the firm to render voluntary religious service.

The Utah office of the Oregon-based **Stoel Rives** is able to work with its counterparts in Portland, Denver and several shops in California to bring a bevy of litigation talent to the Salt Lake City area. Business and commercial litigation are at the forefront, with legal support given in the areas of labor and employment, environmental, natural resources, real estate and technology and intellectual property. Representative firm clients include 3M, McDonalds and Qwest.