

COLORADO

Leading litigation firms

Highly recommended

Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

Faegre & Benson

Hogan & Hartson

Holland & Hart

Holme Roberts & Owen

Jacobs Chase Frick Kleinkopf & Kelley

Reilly Pozner

Recommended

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll

Davis Graham & Stubbs

Hill & Robbins

Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons

Sherman & Howard

Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell

Local litigation stars

Scott Barker

Holland & Hart
Commercial Litigation

Michael Berger

Jacobs Chase Frick Kleinkopf & Kelley
Appellate, Commercial Litigation, Employment
Litigation, Intellectual Property

Timothy Beyer

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Securities

Jeffrey Chase

Jacobs Chase Frick Kleinkopf & Kelley
Appellate, Commercial Litigation

Ann Frick

Jacobs Chase Frick Kleinkopf & Kelley
Commercial Litigation, Employment Litigation

Dale Harris

Davis Graham & Stubbs
Antitrust

Jim Hartley

Holland & Hart
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Intellectual
Property

Robert Hill

Hill & Robbins
Antitrust, Complex Civil Litigation, Securities

James Lyons

Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons
Complex Business Litigation, Securities

Michael McCarthy

Faegre & Benson
Antitrust, Environmental Litigation, Insurance,
Securities

John McDermott

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Securities

Jane Michaels

Holland & Hart
Antitrust, Intellectual Property

David Powell

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck
Employment Litigation

Larry Pozner

Reilly Pozner
Complex Commercial Litigation

Lawrence Theis

Holme Roberts & Owen
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Intellectual
Property

Roger Thomasch

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll
Intellectual Property, Securities

Lawrence Treece

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck
Antitrust, Securities

Malcolm Wheeler

Wheeler Trigg & Kennedy
Appellate, Complex Commercial Litigation, Products
Liability

Future stars

Robert Blume
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher

Kenzo Kawanabe
Davis Graham & Stubbs

Peter Korneffel Jr.
Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

Timothy McDonald
Arnold & Porter

Kyle Velte
Reilly Pozner



Colorado

Environmental and energy litigation currently dominate the legal market in Colorado, which is not surprising given that seven of the largest natural gas fields and two of the largest oil fields in the United States are located in the state. Many businesses have begun to turn to Colorado firms for their highly skilled and cost-effective litigation groups.

Highly recommended firms

Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott

Peers describe Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott as a “unique boutique firm.” Although known for its national capabilities, the firm also enjoys a “great presence” within Denver. The firm classifies itself as “a firm of trial lawyers,” and its partners have tried cases involving antitrust, intellectual property and securities issues for both plaintiffs and defendants. In 2009, partner Glen Summers brought a successful breach of contract suit against Janus. Summer’s client, a former portfolio manager at Janus, filed suit claiming that Janus executives had executed contracts stipulating that all the company’s portfolio managers were entitled to equal pay and benefits, but secretly struck a deal that awarded another star manager better severance protections and a higher pay scale. The jury awarded \$4.8 million to the plaintiff. Other clients include Deloitte & Touche, Hewlett-Packard Company, Mayo Clinic and Samsung Electronics.

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck has established a strong presence in Colorado and is capable of handling litigation on a national scale, with offices in California, Nevada, New Mexico and Washington, D.C.

Tim Beyer chairs Brownstein Hyatt’s litigation department. His caseload consists of work in antitrust, intellectual property, securities, and energy. He recently defended Qwest Communications in a consumer fraud class action in which plaintiffs claimed that Qwest’s Universal Services Fund charges were excessive and undisclosed. The case was settled before it went to trial but had a class been certified, the potential damages could have exceeded hundreds of millions of dollars. Amy Benson served as counsel on the case along with Beyer.

John McDermott has established himself as a strong trial lawyer, primarily in the areas of commercial and securities litigation.

Lawrence Treece has over 20 years of trial experience and focuses his practice on appellate, class actions and securities litigation. Treece has been called “one of the deans of the litigation bar” by one of his peers. Rising star **Pete Korneffel** has proven himself to be an accomplished attorney, having successfully tried cases in state and federal court and at the appellate level.

Faegre & Benson

Faegre & Benson has been described by Colorado competitors as a “strong mainstay” in the litigation market. The firm’s expertise encompasses a large number of practice areas including products liability, securities, class actions, insurance, antitrust, bankruptcy and general commercial litigation. Established in Minnesota in 1886, the firm has handled cases in the United States, Europe and Asia. In June 2009, the firm received the Pro Bono Service Award by the Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network and the

Jim Hartley chairs the firm’s 200-attorney litigation group. He primarily works on intellectual property and antitrust matters. His most recent victory was in defense of Aspen Realty in a patent infringement case; he was successful in getting plaintiff’s claims dismissed on summary judgment. **Jane Michaels** maintains a strong intellectual property and commercial litigation practice. In November 2008, she represented the plaintiff in a patent infringement case involving automatic drilling systems. The jury found that the defendant had willfully infringed on the plaintiff’s patent and awarded the plaintiff \$14 million in lost profits. **Scott Barker** has been recommended by his peers for his strong oil and gas litigation practice. Barker has 28 years of experience under his belt and is known for his exceptional trial skills.

Holme Roberts & Owen

Holme Roberts & Owen is a multi-service firm with offices in nine locations, including Los Angeles, London and Munich. The firm’s

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Rocky Mountain Survivors Center for its extensive work counseling refugees and immigrants.

Michael McCarthy is seen as a “major player” in Colorado for his work in commercial and natural resources litigation. He has represented MiniScribe Unsecured Creditors Committee in a matter involving securities and common law fraud claims.

Hogan & Hartson

Formed in 1904, Hogan & Hartson is renowned for its securities defense, environmental and white-collar crime practices. The firm comprises over 1,100 lawyers and serves clients all over the world from its offices in Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Paris and Beijing. In Colorado, it has offices in Denver, Boulder, and Colorado Springs. The firm attracts litigators who have previously held government positions and boasts four former U.S. attorneys and a former regional director of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission among its ranks.

Holland & Hart

Headquartered in Denver, Holland & Hart is one of the largest Colorado-based law firms and is well respected by peers. With specialties in financial services litigation, environment law, products liability and white-collar crime, the firm has benefitted from clients looking to hire the more cost-efficient firms outside the West and East Coasts.

attorneys work in a variety of practices including antitrust, complex commercial litigation, employment and intellectual property. In July 2009, the firm expanded its securities and white-collar practices with the addition of Cliff Stricklin and Michael MacPhail. In June 2009, the firm achieved a noteworthy victory in a case involving illegal file sharing. The firm represented Capitol Records in a jury trial in Minnesota which concluded in a verdict granting Capitol Records \$1.9 million in damages and a finding that the defendant willfully committed copyright infringement by downloading and distributing 24 sound recordings over Kazaa, an online file-sharing application. Timothy M. Reynolds and Andrew B. Mohraz tried the case.

A competitor says of **Lawrence Theis** that “clients turn to him for his substantive knowledge and trial experience.” He tackles cases involving trade secrets, civil rights and complex commercial issues. He previously served as a chairman of the Antitrust Subcommittee of the Colorado Bar Association.

Jacobs Chase Frick Kleinkopf & Kelley

Formed in 1995, Jacobs Chase Frick Kleinkopf & Kelley concentrates on media law, securities, and complex commercial litigation. The founding partners came from prominent positions at Denver law firms and pride themselves on their cost-effective solutions. **Jeffrey Chase** is the firm’s most

senior litigation member. His expertise lies in commercial litigation and appellate work. **Ann Frick** “has not shown any signs of slowing down,” says an insider. A former Denver Deputy District Attorney, Frick’s practice deals in breach of contract disputes, employment termination, real estate litigation, and business torts. She is also well-known for her arbitration and mediation skills.

Reilly Pozner

Although Reilly Pozner has a modest-sized group, the firm has been recognized by its peers as one of the strongest boutique litigation firms in Colorado. The firm is well-known for its medical products liability practice, although its team also excels in

litigation for more than 40 years. He has served as trial counsel on cases involving securities fraud, insider trading, shareholder litigation, and products liability.

Davis Graham & Stubbs

Davis Graham & Stubbs has been praised for its strong relationships with clients. The firm primarily addresses disputes within the Rocky Mountain region, including class actions, health care litigation and natural resource litigation. **Dale Harris** has been commended for his expertise in antitrust and complex commercial cases. Harris is also a major contributor to the community and serves on the board of trustees of the Mile High United Way and the Rocky Mountain Arthritis Foundation.

attorneys in offices in Denver, Colorado Springs and Casper, Wyoming. **James Lyons** has been named as “one of the best litigators” by a competitor. His practice focuses on complex business, insurance and securities law. He currently serves as the lead litigation counsel to members of the Board of Directors of Qwest Communications with respect to regulatory matters.

Sherman & Howard

Sherman & Howard is a well-regarded multi-state firm with offices in Colorado, Arizona and Nevada. Founded in 1892, the firm continues to represent Fortune 500 companies, banks and other entities. The firm is praised for its construction and telecommunications practices, which include clients like Echostar, Liberty Media, and Qwest Communications. In the summer of 2008, the firm expanded its influence with the opening of an office in St. Louis, Missouri. The appointment of Shannon Dunham as head of the firm’s new office will help to further strengthen its telecommunications practice.

“Hill & Robbins’ co-founder, Robert Hill, receives great reviews for his skills in the courtroom as well as his professionalism. ‘Working with him was a great experience,’ says a fellow attorney.”

bankruptcy, commercial litigation and personal injury matters. Peers have called **Larry Pozner** “fantastic” and “a great trial lawyer.” Pozner has 35 years of trial experience and focuses on complex commercial and criminal matters. He was recently approved by the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy court to act as the lead trial counsel in prosecuting claims against numerous mortgage loan originators that sold the company defective loans.

Recommended firms

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll

First established in 1885, Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll has maintained a positive reputation in Colorado. While the firm is equipped to tackle cases in various practice areas, the firm’s white-collar crime practice has been singled out as being “in high demand.” Notable clients include DuPont, Freddie Mac and the U.S. Women’s National Soccer Team. **Roger Thomasch** has concentrated on cases involving business

Hill & Robbins

Founded in 1978, Hill & Robbins is best known for its natural resources and complex commercial litigation. Notable clients include Starz (a premium programming subsidiary), Kosmetix (a small cosmetics company) and Triad Holdings. Co-founder David Robbins’ practice focuses on natural resources law, class actions, and complex civil litigation. The firm’s other co-founder, **Robert Hill**, receives great reviews for his skills in the courtroom as well as his professionalism. “Working with him was a great experience,” says a fellow attorney. Hill’s career has been distinguished by cases which have resulted in large settlements for plaintiffs, including the *Alert Income Partners Securities Litigation*, where he acquired \$64 million on behalf of his clients.

Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons

Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons is a mainstay in the Denver litigation market. Formed in 1903, the firm excels in commercial, antitrust and white-collar matters. The firm has 77

Wheeler Trigg O’Donnell

Wheeler Trigg O’Donnell may have recently undergone a name change but the firm’s litigation practice is still regarded as “first-rate.” The firm, formerly known as Wheeler Trigg Kennedy, changed its name to reflect the appointment of Michael O’Donnell as a named partner. O’Donnell has been a part of the firm since its inception and has served as lead counsel in cases in 25 states. **Malcolm Wheeler** is viewed as a star among his peers, with one attorney saying, “Wheeler should naturally be at the top of any list of Colorado litigators.” His practice revolves around products liability and general commercial litigation and he is notable for representing a manufacturer in the first defective airbag case tried to verdict.

Insiders describe the firm’s products liability practice as “formidable.” In 2008 the firm defended Whirlpool Corporation and defeated plaintiffs’ attempts to certify a multistate class action based on allegations of injury due to defective refrigerators. Other clients include AT&T, BMW, DuPont, McDonald’s and PepsiCo.

