

Established in 1938, Snell & Wilmer has more than 450 attorneys in 15 locations in the United States and in Mexico.

Announcing ...

SNELL & WILMER MOURNS DEATH OF DONALD L. GAFFNEY

PHOENIX (September 4, 2020) – Snell & Wilmer mourns the loss of Donald L. Gaffney (68), who passed away on September 3, 2020 after battling cancer.

Gaffney, who joined the firm in 1989, was senior partner in bankruptcy, reorganization and workout law. He had significant experience in privacy law, electronic payments and commercial litigation.

In addition to being one of the most highly regarded practitioners in his field, throughout his career he has quietly and effectively taken on numerous important pro bono engagements, including assisting Brophy College Preparatory in a complicated acquisition of an aquatic center through a bankruptcy proceeding. More recently, at the request of a United States Bankruptcy Trustee, he secured a significant monetary judgement for defrauded clients of a “bankruptcy mill.”



Donald L. Gaffney

“Don was an outstanding colleague, one who in addition to having a long and distinguished career for which he was highly regarded across the nation, gave back. He took on pro bono work and was a big contributor to our community. More important, he was a leader, a mentor and a friend,” said Snell & Wilmer Chair Matthew P. Feeney.

He was consistently recognized for Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law by The Best Lawyers in America® (1995-2021), and by Southwest Super Lawyers for Bankruptcy Business (2017-2020) and Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights (2013-2015). He received his J.D., with honors, from the University of Texas where he was an editor for the Texas Law Review, and his B.A. from Austin College where he was an Austin Scholar.

He is survived by his wife Debby, his three children and their spouses Brian (son) and Abby Gaffney, Colin Gaffney (son), and Caitlin (daughter) and Ryan Caval, six grandchildren, Molly, Mason, Nolan, Tobin, Colton, and Cora, his sister Elaine, and nieces Stephanie Cason and Laura Checki.

About Snell & Wilmer

Founded in 1938, Snell & Wilmer is a full-service business law firm with more than 450 attorneys practicing in 15 locations throughout the United States and in Mexico, including Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona; Los Angeles, Orange County and San Diego, California; Denver, Colorado; Washington, D.C.; Boise, Idaho; Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Portland, Oregon; Salt Lake City, Utah; Seattle, Washington; and Los Cabos, Mexico. The firm represents clients ranging from large, publicly traded corporations to small businesses, individuals and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit www.swlaw.com.

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