

Snell & Wilmer



Barbara J. Dawson

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Main Bio

Barb Dawson is a senior investigations and litigation partner. She serves on the firm's elected five-person Executive Committee and three-person Compensation Committee. She also has led the firm's Commercial Litigation Practice Group and its International Practice Group.

Barb's practice concentrates on assisting Fortune 500 businesses and boards of directors with internal investigations, complex litigation and regulatory compliance. Best Lawyers in America® has recognized her as Phoenix Lawyer of the Year for Regulatory Enforcement Litigation. Barb assists companies when legal challenges arise from government action, shareholder, consumer and whistle-blower claims, and other circumstances involving business-threatening conflict and crisis management. She has deep industry experience with several highly regulated business sectors, including financial services, energy, government contracting and technology.

On a national basis, Barb currently serves as Chairperson of the American Bar Association's Section of Litigation. She recently served as one of 16 members of the ABA's Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary that vets and rates federal judicial candidates for the United States Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal and District Courts.

On an international basis, Barb has served as chair of the Board of Directors for Lex Mundi, an international affiliation of 160 independent law firms located in 100 countries. She frequently assists clients with matters involving non-U.S. parties and venues, international compliance issues and cross-border investigations. Her experience has included legal engagements, law-related presentations, projects and board of directors' duties on six continents.

Education

- University of Iowa College of Law (J.D., with distinction)
 - Senior Note and Comment Editor, Journal of Corporation Law
- Iowa State University (B.S., with distinction)
 - Senior Class President

Professional Memberships & Activities

- American Bar Association, Section of Litigation

- Chair (present)
- Member of Leadership (1998-present)
- American Bar Association, Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary (2014-2017)
- American Bar Foundation (2005-present)
- American Law Institute, Member (2019)
- Arizona Bar Association
 - Access to Justice Taskforce (2015)
 - State Bar Convention Committee, Co-Chair (2006)
 - Legal Services Committee (1991-1997), Chair (1993-1995)
- Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education
 - Board of Directors (1998-2005), Chair (2004), Fellow (2004-present)
- Arizona Tax Research Association
 - Board of Directors (2000-2014)
- DirectWomen, Awards Committee (2017-present)
- International Bar Association (2004-present)
- [Lex Mundi](#)
 - Board of Directors (2006-2011), Chair (2009-2010)
 - Global Program Committee (2011-2016)
 - Dispute Resolution Committee, Chair (2008-2009)
 - Diversity Taskforce Coordinator (2005-2010)
 - Women and the Law Committee, Chair (2003-2005)

Representative Presentations & Publications

- "Director-Led Investigations," Co-Author, *Litigation Magazine*, Vol. 45, No. 4, pp. 46-51 (Summer 2019)
- "Ethics Smorgasbord," Panelist, Federal Bar Association Phoenix Chapter (2019)
- "Crisis and Investigation Management in the Era of the 24/7 News Cycle," Presenter, ACC Arizona Chapter (2019)
- ACS #MeToo Listening Panel, Panelist (2019)
- General Counsel Forum, Moderator, ABA Section of Litigation, Corporate Counsel CLE Seminar (2019)
- "Keys to Business Development: Strategies to Build a Sustainable Book of Business," Presenter, ABA Section of Litigation, Professional Success Summit (2018)
- "Ethics in Litigation," Guest Presenter, Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law (2018)
- "Internal Investigations - Current Developments," Presenter (2017)
- "Counsel on the Hot Seat: Managing Internal Investigations," Co-Author and Presenter, Snell & Wilmer Corporate Counsel Forum (2017)
- "Seeking Success in International Mediation," Author, *Litigation Magazine*, Vol. 42, No. 2, pp. 18-19 (Winter 2016)

- Global Symposium, Lex Mundi/ACC Arizona Chapter/Snell & Wilmer, Program Chair (2011, 2013, 2016)
- "War Stories and Lessons Learned," Presenter, Maricopa County Bar Association (2015)
- "Protecting the Attorney-Client Privilege in Internal Investigations," Co-Author and Moderator, Snell & Wilmer Corporate Counsel Forum (2015)
- "If I Knew Then What I Know Now — Tips From Proven Leaders," American Bar Association Section of Litigation (2014)
- "[In Government's Shoes: The Continuing Force Behind the False Claims Act & Qui Tam Complaints](#)," Co-Author, Arizona Attorney (March 2014)
- "Standing in the Shoes of the Government — The Rise of Qui Tam Litigation," Snell & Wilmer Corporate Counsel Forum (2013)
- "Ethics in Merger & Acquisitions: A Review of Best Practices from Pre- and Post-Closing," Presenter, ACC Arizona Chapter (2013)
- "Lex Mundi/ACC Southeastern Global Symposium," Moderator (2013)
- "Disclosing and Reserving for Loss Contingencies," Presenter (2013)
- "Litigation Management in Evolving Times," Moderator, ACC Utah Chapter (2012)
- "Commercial Litigation Funding & Investment 2012," Presenter, New York Digital Sandbox (2012)
- "[Discovering Risks for Non-US Entities: Adapting to US Rules of Engagement](#)," Chapter Co-Author, Inside the Minds: Complying with International Discovery Regulations; Leading Lawyers on Understanding Rules for Discovery in Foreign Countries, Aspatore Books (2012)
- "Controlling Costs in Litigation and Arbitration Around the World," Panel Chair, ACC New York Chapter/Lex Mundi (2011)
- "*Dukes v. Wal-Mart & AT&T v. Concepcion*: Strategies for Avoiding Class & Collective Actions," Presenter, ACC Arizona Chapter (2011)
- Cross-Border Dispute Resolution Faculty, Lex Mundi Institute (2011-present)
- "Valuing Litigation: Lessons Learned from Collaboration," Co-Author, ACC Docket, 127-131 (2011)
- "Attorney-Client Privilege: The Implications of *Bevill and United States v. Graf* for Corporate Counsel and Personnel," Presenter, ACC Arizona Chapter (2011)
- "Risk Factors for the Away Team in U.S. Litigation," Co-Author with Dr. Martin Wagener, ACC Docket, pp. 25-28 (2010)
- "Bringing Value to Litigation, Co-Chair, ABA Section of Litigation/ACC, Valuing Litigation Symposium (2010)
- "Update on Internal Investigations and Related Cross Border Litigation," Program Chair, Lex Mundi Litigation, Arbitration & Dispute Resolution North America Regional Meeting (2010)
- "The Anatomy of the Director-Led Investigation and the Role of Special Counsel to the Board," Co-Author with Joseph Adams and Andreea V. Micklis, Snell & Wilmer Financial Services Litigation Bulletin (2010)
- "Unclaimed Property: Understanding and Navigating this Trap for the Unwary," Presenter, Arizona Tax Executives Institute (2010)

Professional Recognition & Awards

- AZ Business Leader, AZ Business Leaders Magazine (2020)
- Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business®, Litigation: General Commercial (2014-2019)
- The Best Lawyers in America® (2008-2019): Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Mass Tort Litigation/Class Action - Defendants, Regulatory Enforcement Litigation (SEC, Telecom, Energy), Securities Litigation, Arbitration, Phoenix Lawyer of the Year, Regulatory Enforcement Litigation (SEC, Telecom, Energy)
- Top 100 Lawyers in Arizona, AZ Business Magazine (2014-2019)
- Southwest Super Lawyers®, Business Litigation (2007-2019)
- Benchmark Litigation, Local Litigation Star – Arizona, Antitrust, General Commercial (2013, 2016-2018)
- Who's Who Legal, Commercial Litigation (2008-2019)
- Maricopa County Bar Association, Hall of Fame Inductee (2018)
- Outstanding Women in Business, Phoenix Business Journal (2016)
- "[Female Powerbrokers Q&A: Snell & Wilmer's Barb Dawson](#)," Feature Article, Law360 (February 21, 2014)
- Walter E. Craig Distinguished Service Award, Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education (2013)
- "[Barb Dawson: Winning Cases and Leading Lawyers in and from the Valley of the Sun](#)," Of Counsel Interview: Vol. 31, Iss. 11 (November 2012)
- ATHENA Award, Business Woman of the Year, Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce (2009)
- Phoenix Business Journal, 40 Under 40 Award
- Volunteer of the Year, Arizona Volunteer Lawyers Program

Community Involvement

- Judicial Intern Opportunity Program
 - Sponsor (2004-present)
- Lex Mundi Pro Bono Foundation (2006-2018)
 - Chair (2009-2010)
- Phoenix Committee on Foreign Relations
 - Board of Directors (2012-2015)
 - Advisory Board Member (2015-present)
- Valley Leadership Class XVI
- XICO
 - Board of Directors (2012-2016)
 - Program Committee Member (2015-present)

Bar Admissions

- Arizona
- District of Columbia

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of Arizona
- United States District Court, District of Arizona
- United States District Court, District of Columbia
- United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit