

Snell & Wilmer



Marsha Cotton

Associate | Phoenix

Tel. 602.382.6598

mcotton@swlaw.com

Main Bio

Marsha Cotton has a multi-faceted commercial litigation practice that includes advising clients on all aspects of dispute resolution. She has assisted in the representation of clients in matters involving breach of contract, cybersecurity, business tort, corporate governance, tax, intellectual property, trust and estate, tribal, gaming, real property, constitutional rights, and employment issues. She works with companies of all sizes in a multitude of industries such as nonprofit organizations, cannabis companies, resort and travel companies, financial institutions, hospitals, and product manufacturers, among others. Marsha also has experience advising companies doing business on tribal land with various aspects of regulatory compliance. Prior to joining Snell & Wilmer, Marsha served as a judicial law clerk at the Arizona State Court of Appeals, Division I and the U.S. District Court, District of Arizona.

Marsha is also dedicated to serving the community and maintains an active pro bono practice in which she provides a variety of legal services to clients who do not have the resources to pay customary legal fees.

Representative Experience

- Defended international non-profit organization in UCC-based breach of contract dispute
- Defended marijuana dispensary owners in corporate governance dispute
- Defended Fortune 500 health care organization concerning allegations of federal employment law violations
- Defended national parcel logistics company concerning allegations of state and federal employment law violations
- Defended national health care organization with respect to allegations of corporate negligence and medical malpractice
- Represented national online travel companies seeking special action review before the Arizona State Court of Appeals and Arizona State Supreme Court
- Represented international HVAC company regarding claims of intellectual property misappropriation
- Defended national HVAC and refrigeration company in breach of contract dispute
- Defended multiple resort companies during regulatory disputes with state and tribal government agencies
- Counseled international musical instrument company in restructuring service agreement terms to help provide a safer environment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

- Counseled national material handling company regarding its efforts to create a standardized waiver and release of liability agreement
- Represented golf cart manufacturer concerning breach of contract dispute
- Advised multiple international gaming companies on compliance with Arizona's sports betting, lottery, and games of chance laws
- Represented individual regarding appointment of personal representative in probate matter and related quiet title action
- Represented minor as pro bono counsel before a federal immigration court

Education

- Arizona State University, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law (J.D., 2018)
 - Class of 2018 Dean's Award
 - William H. Pedrick Scholar
 - Associate Editor, Sports and Entertainment Law Journal
- The University of Oklahoma, (M.Ed., 2015)
- Southern Nazarene University (B.S., magna cum laude, 2013)
 - 2013 NCCAA Women's Basketball National Championship Team

Professional Memberships & Activities

- National Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association, Phoenix Chapter
- Arizona Black Bar
- Arizona Women Lawyers Association

Representative Presentations & Publications

- "[The Impact of Historic Land Acquisition on Tribal Gaming in Alaska](#)," Co-Author, International Masters of Gaming Law Magazine (January 2023)
- "[U.S. Department of the Interior Announces Historic Land Acquisition in Alaska](#)," Co-Author, S&W Legal Alert (December 1, 2022)
- "[To Tax or Not To Tax" Why Won't the Supreme Court Answer the Question?](#)", Co-Author, Gaming Law Review (Sept. 20, 2022)
- "[Ninth Circuit Holds California Negotiated State-Tribal Gaming Compacts in Bad Faith](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (August 18, 2022)
- "[Divided Supreme Court Says Texas Cannot Regulate Tribe's Electronic Bingo](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (June 22, 2022)
- "[Arizona Supreme Court Confronts Applicability of State Ad Valorem Tax on Tribal Land](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (April 28, 2022)
- "[Supreme Court Determines New Limitations to Assignor Estoppel Doctrine](#)," Co-Author, SWIPLit Blog (July 1, 2021)

Professional Recognition & Awards

- Arizona Bar Foundation Top Pro Bono Attorney of the Year (2022)
- Community Legal Services Volunteer Lawyer's Program Remote Service Team Member of the Year (2021)

Community Involvement

- Dress for Success Phoenix
 - Volunteer (2018-Present)
- U.S. Young African Leadership Initiative Mandela Washington Fellowship
 - Volunteer Mentor (2019-Present)

Previous Professional Experience

- U.S. District Court, District of Arizona, Judicial Law Clerk
- Arizona Court of Appeals, Division I, Judicial Law Clerk
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Arizona, Judicial Extern
- Quarles & Brady, LLP, Legal Writing Intern
- Arizona State University Office of General Counsel, Extern

Bar Admissions

- Arizona

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of Arizona
- United States District Court, District of Arizona