

Snell & Wilmer



Brett Applegate

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Main Bio

Brett Applegate is a commercial litigator known for her ability to find practical and cost-effective solutions for her clients, who range from businesses and financial institutions to individuals and parties to real estate transactions. A skilled writer and advocate, Brett particularly enjoys drafting and presenting complex motions in state and federal courts in Oregon and Washington.

Representative Experience

- Represented a national labor union in a multi-million-dollar labor relations dispute
- Represented a national law firm in a \$20 million fee dispute with its former client
- Represented a Portland-area business in arbitration in an ownership dispute involving a multi-million-dollar apartment complex
- Represented financial institution in multiple cases involving violations of the bankruptcy stay
- Represented a homebuyer in a mediated settlement in a dispute involving failure to disclose important information about a nearby housing development
- Represented financial institution in a case involving fraudulent account opening and strategic motion practice to prompt settlement
- Represented financial institution enforcing a non-solicitation agreement against a former employee
- Represented a financial institution under the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA) and on appeal
- Represented homeowner in boundary line dispute involving adjacent homeowner and city
- Represented a state government in multi-party dispute involving interpretation of the Commerce Clause

Education

- Lewis & Clark Law School (J.D. summa cum laude, graduated first in class)
 - Article Editor, Lewis & Clark Law Review
- The University of Arizona (M.F.A. Creative Writing)
- The University of Arizona (B.A. English and Creative Writing, summa cum laude, with honors)

Professional Memberships & Activities

- Owen M. Panner American Inn of Court (2020-2021, 2023 to present)
- Oregon Women Lawyers Working Parents Committee, Member (2018-2020), Co-Chair (2024-present)
- Multnomah Bar Association Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (2017-2020)
- Multnomah Bar Association YLS Service to the Public Committee (2015-2017)

Representative Presentations & Publications

- “Statutes of Limitations and Statutes of Repose,” Co-Author, Tort Law in Oregon, Oregon State Bar Association (2024)
- “Dave Frohnmayer in the United States Supreme Court,” Co-Author, The Oregon Constitutional Law Newsletter (Winter 2016)
- “They Made It Up,” Co-Author, Oregon State Bar Administrative Law Newsletter (Spring 2015)
- “When Stranahan Doesn’t Get You Where You Need to Go – Advocating for New Approaches to Interpreting the Oregon Constitution,” Co-Author, The Oregon Constitutional Law Newsletter (Summer 2014)
- “Prior (False?) Accusations: Reforming Rape Shields to Reflect the Dynamics of Sexual Assault,” Author, 17 Lewis & Clark L. Rev. 899 (2013)

Professional Recognition & Awards

- The Best Lawyers in America®: Ones to Watch, Commercial Litigation (2021-2024), Banking and Finance Litigation (2021-2024)
- Oregon Super Lawyers®, Rising Star (2020-2023)

Community Involvement

- Lewis and Clark Law School
 - Mentor (2014 to present)
- Animal Aid
 - Volunteer Cat Caregiver (2012-2016)

Previous Professional Experience

- Larkins Vacura Kayser, Associate (2016-2020), Partner (2021-2024)
- Harrang Long Gary Rudnick PC, Summer Associate (2012), Associate (2013-2016)
- Oregon Department of Justice, Criminal and Collateral Remedies Litigation, Law Clerk (2011-2012)

Bar Admissions

- Oregon
- Washington

Court Admissions

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

- Supreme Court of Washington
- United States District Court, Eastern District of Washington
- United States District Court, Western District of Washington