

Snell & Wilmer



Ellie Lockwood

Partner | Denver

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Main Bio

Ellie Lockwood is a trial and litigation partner and is the Commercial Litigation Practice Group leader for the Denver office. Ellie focuses her practice in commercial, intellectual property, and trust & estate litigation. She handles all aspects of business disputes from pre-filing investigations through appeals and judgment enforcement. The majority of cases she handles involve business torts, fraud, RICO/COCCA, antitrust, Colorado Consumer Protection Act (CCPA), unfair trade practices, Lanham Act, and matters involving claims by or against trustees and other fiduciaries. Ellie also has substantial experience with seeking or opposing preliminary relief (TRO, preliminary injunction, and prejudgment attachment), fraudulent transfers, and contempt proceedings.

Throughout her career, Ellie has maintained an active pro bono practice. In 2015, she represented the State Public Defender in an action against the Denver County Court challenging its bond-setting practices and has served as Special Counsel for the State Public Defender's Office. Ellie also is part of the team of lawyers representing a non-profit entity in landmark civil rights litigation against the State of Colorado (*Disability Law Colorado v. Bicha, et al.* (D. Colo.)) to ensure timely competency evaluation and treatment for pretrial detainees suffering from mental illness. Additionally Ellie is an active member of the Colorado Lawyers Committee, including serving as YLD co-chair of Denver Legal Night.

Since 2015, Lockwood has been selected as a Colorado Rising Star by Super Lawyers. She also has received numerous recognition for her pro bono efforts in our community, including receiving Denver Bar Association's "Volunteer of the Year" award in 2018. In 2020, Ellie was named a Top Woman Lawyer by Law Week Colorado.

Representative Experience

- Defended a multimillion dollar trade secret dispute filed simultaneously in three jurisdictions.
- Prosecuted a RICO/COCCA action on behalf of a government entity, defending a qui tam suit against a Fortune 500 company.
- Prosecuted a fraud case under the Colorado Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act, including seeking prejudgment attachment orders, temporary restraining orders and a preliminary injunction freezing assets until trial.
- Represented a private equity firm in a bench trial, a subsequent appeal, and an award of attorneys' fees and costs.

- Represented beneficiaries in connection with a proposed multibillion dollar settlement of claims against multiple trustee banks in New York Supreme Court in Manhattan.

Education

- University of Denver, Sturm College of Law (J.D.)
 - Order of St. Ives
 - Senior Staff Editor, DU Law Review
 - Scholastic Excellence Awards: Contracts, Patent Litigation, Lawyering Process
 - Recipient of merit scholarships
- University of Denver (B.A., Biological Sciences, *magna cum laude*)
 - Minor: Legal Studies
 - University Honors
 - Honors in Biology
 - Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society

Professional Memberships & Activities

- Colorado Bar Association
 - Intellectual Property Section
- Denver Bar Association
- Colorado Women's Bar Association
- Faculty of Federal Advocates

Representative Presentations & Publications

- ["Three Tips If You're Experiencing Employee Re-Classification in Colorado,"](#) Author, ColoradoBiz Magazine (May 17, 2021)
- ["How to Protect Business Records and Avoid Lawsuits with Virtual Employees,"](#) Author, ColoradoBiz Magazine (April 20, 2021)
- ["Steps for Eschewing Trade Litigation in Colorado,"](#) Author, ColoradoBiz Magazine (February 9, 2021)
- "Ethics Presentation," Co-Presenter, Snell & Wilmer 2020 Year-End CLE Series (August 18, 2020)
- "Civil Claims and Jury Instructions," Co-Presenter, CBA-CLE Webinar (June 30, 2020)
- *Colorado Civil Claims: Elements, Defenses, and Sample Pleadings*, Author of Chapter 10: Civil Conspiracy and Chapter 13: Colorado Organized Crime Control Act (COCCA), CBA-CLE (2019)
- ["Justice for All" Video](#), Interviewed, Colorado Supreme Court (2019)
- "FFA's Trial Advocacy Program: A Win for All," Author, Faculty of Federal Advocates Newsletter Issue 2016/2 (May 2016)
- "Litigating Claims Under the Colorado Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act," Author, Colorado Lawyer (April 2016)

Professional Recognition & Awards

- The Best Lawyers in America®, Commercial Litigation (2022-2024)
- Law Week Colorado, Top Women Lawyers (2020)

- Colorado Super Lawyers®, Rising Stars Edition, General Litigation (2015-2021)
- Colorado Lawyers Committee, Team of the Year (2019)
- Denver Bar Association, Volunteer of the Year (2018)
- Colorado Lawyers Committee, Team of the Year (2017)
- Snell & Wilmer Community Involvement Award (2017)
- Colorado Lawyers Committee, Award of Special Recognition (2013)
- Colorado Lawyers Committee, Team of the Year (2012)

Community Involvement

- Colorado Lawyers Committee
 - YLD Legal Night Team, Co-Chair (2015-2019)
 - Mental Health Task Force (2011-present)

Previous Professional Experience

- Reilly Pozner LLP
 - Trial & Litigation Associate (2011-2016)
 - Law Clerk (2009-2011)
- David W. Kirch, P.C., Law Clerk (2007-2008)

Bar Admissions

- Colorado

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of Colorado
- United States Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
- United States District Court, District of Colorado