



Michael Willes



PARTNER

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503.802.5737 direct

LEGAL SERVICES

Litigation

EDUCATION

J.D., Columbia Law School, 2010
B.A., Brigham Young University, 2005

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

Oregon State Bar
State Bar of California
Washington State Bar Association
U.S. District Court, District of Oregon
U.S. District Court, Districts of Northern and Central California
U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

The Best Lawyers in America

2022, Commercial Litigation
2021, Ones to Watch – Litigation – Securities

Super Lawyers

2017-2018, 2020-2021, Oregon Rising Star – Business Litigation

Multnomah Bar Association

2016, Young Lawyers Section Rookie of the Year

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Multnomah Bar Association

LANGUAGES

Spanish

Michael is a partner in the firm's Litigation Department. He has represented companies in a broad range of business matters, including contract disputes, securities litigation, and class actions. In addition to civil litigation, Michael has assisted clients with regulatory issues and criminal investigations.

Before joining Tonkon Torp, Michael practiced in the Litigation Department at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP for four years. He earned his J.D. from Columbia Law School, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar, Alexander Hamilton Fellow, and Managing Editor of the Columbia Business Law Review. While a law student, he held an externship with Judge Michael W. Mosman of the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon.

Michael worked as an analyst at economics consulting firm Analysis Group, Inc., before attending law school. There he performed financial and statistical analyses in support of expert witnesses, whose reports and testimony were used at trial. While earning his undergraduate degree in economics and Spanish, Michael interned at the U.S. embassy's economics section in Madrid.

Michael is a native Oregonian, raised in Corvallis. He is thrilled to be back in Portland where he can explore the trails that traverse the city with his family.

Presentations & Publications

"Oregon State Courts: Overview and Rules," Chapter, Oregon Civil Pleading and Litigation (2020 Edition), Oregon State Bar

"Banks Sue Over Oregon's Foreclosure Moratorium," Ear to the Ground Blog, October 2020

"Stare Decisis at the Oregon Supreme Court," Litigation Journal, Fall 2018

"Waivers – What Am I Waiving?" Fall Board and Educational Conference, NALS of Oregon, September 2016

"Contracts 101 for Startups," February 2016

"A Foil for *Fazzolari*: Recent Negligence Case Law Weakens Duty Limitations," Oregon Law Review, February 2016

"*Caveat Venditor*: The Consequences of *Bagley v. Mt Bachelor, Inc.* for Negligence Releases and Other Contract Provisions," Litigation Journal, Summer 2015

"Recent Case Notes – *Forum Non Conveniens*," The Verdict, Issue 1, 2015

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & ACTIVITIES

Virginia Garcia Memorial Foundation

Board Member

Multnomah Bar Association Young Lawyers Section

Member, Board of Directors

Past Co-Chair, CLE Committee

Oregon State Bar House of Delegates

Region 5, Delegate

Portland Workforce Alliance

Board Member

Campaign for Equal Justice

Past Member, Associates Committee

