Holland & Hart



## PRACTICES

Data Privacy and Information Security
Business Litigation
Government Investigations and White Collar Defense
Stakeholder Disputes
Finance

## EDUCATION

University of Colorado Law School, J.D., 1994
Dean's Honor List

University of Notre Dame, B.A., 1990
*cum laude*
Dean's Honor List

## BAR ADMISSIONS

Colorado

# Michael Carrigan

Partner

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**Michael represents companies and individuals navigating complex business disputes, government investigations, and cybersecurity threats with pragmatic, solution-oriented strategies.**

An experienced business litigator with a former prosecutor's perspective, Michael advises national and international companies on data breaches, privacy compliance, ransomware incidents, and law enforcement interactions. He serves as outside general counsel for numerous e-commerce companies, advising them on compliance issues, litigation, and litigation avoidance. Michael also serves as an arbitrator with the American Arbitration Association.

Michael has tried over 120 cases to judges, juries, and arbitrators, and appeared before federal and state courts, including the Colorado Supreme Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Before joining Holland & Hart, he served as a Denver Senior Deputy District Attorney, prosecuting complex cases and developing experience in white-collar defense and government investigations.

Michael is a member of the prestigious International Academy of Trial Lawyers, which limits membership to 500 attorneys nationally, reflecting his trial excellence and peer recognition. He has secured multi-million-dollar verdicts and settlements in disputes involving trade secrets, breach of fiduciary duty, and cybersecurity incidents.

As part of his dedication to community service, Michael served twelve years as a publicly elected member of the University of Colorado Board of Regents. In 2023, Michael was jointly appointed by Colorado's Governor, Attorney General, and Chief Justice for a six-year term on the Judicial Nominating Commission to help select trial judges in Denver.

Michael clerked for the Honorable Clarence A. Brimmer, United States District Judge for the District of Wyoming.

## CLIENT RESULTS

### Representative Matters

Defended large natural resources company in trade secret arbitration involving millions of dollars in royalties; claimant withdrew all claims after arbitrator signaled intent to issue directed verdict in favor of Michael's

client.

Defended multi-million dollar trust claim; following Michael's cross-examination at trial, petitioner voluntarily dismissed his claims and agreed to reimburse Michael's client for all fees and costs.

Successful representation of a CEO of a publicly traded company in an arbitration to secure the multi-million-dollar severance owed to him.

Represented internet marketing company in arbitration involving eight-figure arbitration against major social media company.

Multimillion-dollar verdict in client's favor following a two-week jury trial regarding breach of fiduciary duty claims.

Assisted nationwide retailer in breach and multimillion-dollar ransomware incident.

Led internal investigation into client data breach and resulting fraudulent payments.

Assisted client in investigating and reporting multimillion-dollar hacking/cyber fraud incident and coordination with law enforcement as part of international investigation.

A state prosecutor charged a construction contractor with two counts of felony theft of project funds. Mr. Carrigan was hired after a court bound the case over after a preliminary hearing. Mr. Carrigan coordinated a presentation of evidence that led the prosecution to dismiss the case in its entirety. He then filed a federal lawsuit against the complaining parties and promptly secured a seven-figure policy limits settlement by their insurer.

A small software company was the subject of a federal lawsuit seeking a restraining order and more than $10 million in damages. Within three weeks, the temporary restraining order was defeated and the adverse party agreed to withdraw its complaint and stipulated to a $1 million payment to Mr. Carrigan's client.

Successful defense of trade secret and non-complete claims, resulting in complete vindication and recovery of attorney fees for client.

An insurance brokerage was sued by a former client for numerous claims and asserted damages over $4 million. Following dismissal of key through dispositive motions, Mr. Carrigan led a team through a nine-day jury trial, resulting in a total defense verdict after less than two hours of deliberations.

## PUBLICATIONS

"Utah's New Commercial Email Act: A Warning to Businesses Engaged in Internet Marketing ," *Holland & Hart Legal Update*, July 25, 2023

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"The Other Pandemic: Cyber Fraud in the Work from Home Age,"

*Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) Colorado*, April 13, 2022

## RECOGNITION

- International Academy of Trial Lawyers, Fellow
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® Commercial Litigation, 2014-2027; Insurance Law, 2020-2027; Criminal Defense: White Collar, 2023-2027
- Thomson Reuters Stand-out Lawyers, 2024
- *National Law Journal*, Top Rated Insurance Lawyer, 2012
- Colorado Super Lawyers®, Business Litigation, 2009-2026
- Colorado Super Lawyers®, Top 100 Lawyers, 2023-2026
- Colorado Super Lawyers®, Top 5 Lawyers: Business Litigation, 2026
- Super Lawyers® Corporate Counsel Edition, 2010
- American Bar Association Leadership Academy, 2008, 2009
- Denver Bar Association, Richard Marden Davis Award, 2007
- *The Colorado Statesman*, Fifty for the Future, 2007
- 2006 Marshall Fellow: An international exchange program for young business, community, and political leaders in the United States and Europe
- *Denver Business Journal,* Forty Under 40, 2005
- Colorado Institute for Leadership Training, Community Leadership Award, 2005
- Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, Chamber 100 Program, 2005
- *Who's Who in American Law* and *Who's Who in Emerging Leaders*

## PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- The National Institute for Trial Advocacy's Hanley Advanced Trial Program, the National College of District Attorneys' Career Prosecutor Course, and the Colorado Institute of Leadership Training, Graduate
- Completed a six-week intensive Spanish review course at the Maryknoll Language Institute in Cochabamba, Bolivia
- American Bar Association, Member
- American Arbitration Association, Arbitrator
- Colorado Bar Association, Member
- Denver Bar Association, Member
- Humane Colorado, Board of Directors
- Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center, Board of Directors
- University of Colorado Law School, Law Alumni Board
    - Chair, 2022-2023