Holland & Hart



PRACTICES

Appellate
Business Litigation
Government Investigations and White Collar Defense
Intellectual Property Litigation
Real Estate Litigation

EDUCATION

University of Michigan Law School, J.D., 2011
Michigan Law Review, Editor-in-Chief
Order of the Coif
magna cum laude

Princeton University, B.A., 2007
magna cum laude

BAR ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia
Colorado

Christopher Jackson

Partner

555 17th Street, Suite 3200, Denver, CO 80202

P 303.295.8305

cmjackson@hollandhart.com

As a litigator and co-lead of the Appellate Practice Group, Chris finds creative ways to solve complex legal problems.

Chris offers a rare perspective: an appellate attorney who's tried more than a dozen cases, including first chairing both jury and bench trials. He's handled matters at the US Supreme Court, most of the federal circuit courts, and in other state and federal courts across the country. He regularly writes and comments about the Tenth Circuit, the Colorado Supreme Court, and the Colorado Court of Appeals.

Before joining Holland & Hart, Chris was an assistant attorney general at the Colorado Attorney General's Office, where he investigated and litigated a wide variety of claims on behalf of government officials and agencies.

Print and broadcast media regularly turn to Chris for his legal analysis on the judiciary, constitutional law, elections, and the Colorado state government.

Previously, Chris clerked for the Honorable Roger L. Gregory on the US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

CLIENT RESULTS

Appellate Experience

Secured the reversal of a $41 million jury verdict in a case involving contract and tort claims arising out of a natural resources development project.

Successfully reduced a jury verdict by several million dollars in post-trial motions on a 42 U.S.C. § 1983 claim against a municipal defendant.

Successfully represented a number of organizational clients in Title Board appeals before the Colorado Supreme Court.

Successfully defended a district court judgment in a sprawling intellectual property matter before both the Federal Circuit and the US Supreme Court.

Currently serving as lead appellate counsel in an interlocutory appeal involving a multi-million dollar international business tort dispute.

Successfully defended an appellate challenge in a bid protest matter worth several hundred million dollars before the Federal Circuit.

Obtained a reversal in a high-profile business licensing dispute by

convincing the court that the government agency misapplied settled law.

Successfully defended a judgment confirming a significant arbitration award against an international mining operation.

Served as appellate counsel successfully defending against a $92 million lawsuit arising out of an international hydrocarbon development project. Obtained reversal of the original $42 million judgment on appeal, and then a complete defense verdict following a six-day jury trial.

Trial Experience

Successfully first chaired a week-long jury trial in a dispute over a real estate agreement.

Served as general counsel for the campaign committee of a candidate for statewide office.

Served as general counsel for the transition committee of a statewide elected official.

Secured summary judgment in a series of intellectual property actions involving a medical device manufacturer in three federal districts.

Trial counsel for a national franchise in a trademark dispute that settled on favorable terms.

Currently representing a municipal entity in a dispute worth millions over indemnification rights.

Obtained a highly favorable settlement after several weeks of trial in an antitrust case against a pharmaceutical company.

PUBLICATIONS

"How (Not) to Mess Up an Appeal," *Colorado Lawyer*, November 13, 2025

"How (Not) to Mess Up an Appeal, Volume II," *Colorado Lawyer*, March 2025

"In a Pointed Decision, the Tenth Circuit Addresses Waiver in the Context of Qualified Immunity," *Law.com*, July 26, 2024

"Tenth Circuit Tosses 'Bivens' Lawsuit Against U.S. Marshals, Offers Candid Assessment of Supreme Court Precedent," *Law.com*, March 13, 2024

"Words of Caution from Colorado: Double Check Your Deadlines!," *LexisNexis Practical Guidance*, Co-Author, November 7, 2023

"Tenth Circuit Rules That District Courts Cannot Reopen Cases Under Rule 60(b) That Have Been Voluntarily Dismissed Without Prejudice Under Rule 41(a)," *Law.com*, September 26, 2023

"How (Not) to Mess Up an Appeal, Volume I," *Colorado Lawyer*, June 2023

"Tenth Circuit Clarifies Application of the 'Continuing-Violation' and 'Repeated-Violations' Doctrines," *Law.com*, April 21, 2023

"Tenth Circuit Holds That Foreign Arbitration Award Still Subject to Confirmation in the US Despite Foreign Court's Post-Confirmation Annulment of Arbitration Award," *Law.com*, February 8, 2023

"Supreme Court poised to issue blockbuster decision on free speech," *Reuters*, November 15, 2022

"Supreme Court Poised to Issue Blockbuster Decision on Free Speech," *Thomson Reuters Westlaw Today*, November 15, 2022

"Tenth Circuit Applies ‘Demanding' Materiality Standard to FCA False-Certification Claim," *Law.com*, October 11, 2022

"Tenth Circuit Recognizes Constitutional Right To Record the Police," *Law.com*, August 11, 2022

"Tenth Circuit Sua Sponte Raises Preclusive Effect of Settlement Agreement to Vacate Preliminary Injunction Relating to Denver Homeless Sweeps," *Law.com*, June 13, 2022

"Tenth Circuit Adopts Expansive Reading of Express-Preemption Provision," *Law.com*, April 13, 2022

"The Tenth Circuit Reverses Qualified Immunity for University Official Under Rule 12(B)(6) in Student Speech Case," *Law.com*, February 16, 2022

"COVID-19 Comes to the Colorado Supreme Court," *98 DENVER L. REV. 295*, February 1, 2022

"Tenth Circuit Clarifies an Ambiguity in the Final Judgment Rule," *Law.com*, December 14, 2021

"Tenth Circuit Upholds Colorado's Anti-Discrimination Act Against Constitutional Challenge," *Law.com*, August 23, 2021

"A Proposal to Institute En Banc Review at the Colorado Court of Appeals," *97 DENVER L. REV. FORUM 1*, August 15, 2020

"Horizontal Stare Decisis," *Colorado Lawyer*, April 2020

"Colorado Supreme Court Continues to Evolve on School Vouchers and Standing," *Colorado Lawyer*, January 2016

"Tort, Moral Luck, and Blame," *60 CLEV. ST. L. REV. 57*, 2012

"Reasonable Persons, Reasonable Circumstances," *50 SAN DIEGO L. REV. 651*, 2013

"When a Company Confesses," *109 MICH. L. REV. 387*, 2010

"J.D.B. v. North Carolina and the Reasonable Person," *110 MICH. L. REV. FIRST IMPRESSIONS 9*, 2011

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Ethical Issues in Appeals," *ACC Colorado 16th Annual Ethics Day*, 12/01/2022

RECOGNITION

- *Chambers USA*, Litigation: Appellate, 2026
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Appellate Practice, 2025-2027
- Colorado Super Lawyers®, Appellate, 2026
- Colorado Super Lawyers® Rising Stars, Appellate, 2022-2025
- *5280 Magazine* Top Lawyers, Appellate, 2023-2026
- Denver Bar Association Pro Bono Star, 2022
- *Lawdragon*, 500 Leading Litigators, Appellate, Business Litigation, and White Collar, 2025-2027

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Council of Appellate Lawyers, ABA Judicial Division, Colorado Chair, 2023-present
- Denver Bar Association, Board of Trustees, 2022-present
- Colorado Bar Association, Board of Governors, 2021-present
- Colorado Civil Appeals Clinic, Board Member, 2023–present
- University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Adjunct Professor, 2020-present