



SARAH SMYTH O'BRIEN

Denver Office

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Sarah is a member of Butler Snow's litigation department and practices within the Tort, Transportation, & Specialized Litigation Group.

PRACTICE AREAS AND INDUSTRY TEAMS

- Construction Litigation
- Commercial Litigation
- Premises Liability
- Insurance
- Tort, Transportation and Specialized Litigation
- Class Actions
- Construction Task Force

EXPERIENCE

- Ms. O'Brien has represented clients in state and federal court in a broad range of complex civil litigation matters, including construction litigation, commercial litigation, insurance bad faith, and premises liability cases. Ms. O'Brien has experience in all phases of complex litigation, including trial and arbitration.

Representative Experience

- Obtained a defense verdict for contractor in a construction defect arbitration involving claimed damages of over \$10 million.
- Assisted team with successful appeal to the Colorado Supreme Court of key damage issues in product liability matter.
- Defended insurers in complex bad faith cases, in which extensive monetary damages were claimed, in federal and state court.
- Obtained summary judgment for clients in federal and state court.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Colorado, 2002
- U.S. District Courts
 - Colorado: District of Colorado

DISTINCTIONS

- *Martindale-Hubbell*[®]
 - AV[®]- Preeminent[™] Peer Review Rated
- *Best Lawyers in America*[®]
 - Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, 2021

ASSOCIATIONS

- American Bar Association
 - Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section
 - Forum on Construction
- Colorado Bar Association
- Faculty of Federal Advocates
- Colorado Defense Lawyers Association
- Claims Resolution and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM)
- Downtown Denver Partnership
 - Member, Experience Council
- Associated General Contractors
 - Member, Legislative Committee
- Judge William E. Doyle American Inn of Court
- Denver Bar Association
- Colorado Women's Bar Association
- Colorado Home Builders Association

EDUCATION & HONORS

- University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, J.D., *Order of St. Ives*, 2002
 - Preventive Law Journal
- University of Wyoming, B.S., Political Science, 1997
- Clerkship, Honorable Justice Gregory Hobbs, Jr., Colorado Supreme Court, Denver, CO, 2002-2003

PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Speaker, "Using Waivers to Limit Liability for COVID-19 Exposure Claims," myLawCLE, July 17, 2020.
- Speaker, "[Your Guide to Legal Matters](#)," Business Leaders Podcast, May 25, 2019.
- Co Author, "[Surge in Apartment Construction Fuels Condo Conversions, Liability Concerns in Denver](#)," *Law Week Colorado*, Vol. 15, No. 43, October 22, 2018.
- Author, "Choose Your Forum," Construction Claims, CLM, Fall 2016

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- Volunteer work for Encompass Hospice of Colorado