

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Our role as legal counsel is to help clients to obtain favorable and final resolutions of their disputes in a prompt and cost-effective manner. Our team of experienced litigators guide clients through mediation, arbitration, and complex litigation using creative solutions while maintaining focus on client objectives.

We understand the high costs of trials in commercial disputes so we encourage clients to adopt policies and strategies that will avoid litigation when possible and expedite it when unavoidable. When alternative dispute resolution mechanisms are not available, our trial lawyers bring extensive experience in both bench and jury trials. We also place a high value on maintaining a positive professional role in the legal profession, and our partners have taken leading roles in both national and international professional associations.

Clients look to us for pragmatic solutions, assistance in mitigating litigation costs and a proven track record of success. We strive to meet these expectations while also keeping up with evolving technologies that govern the assembly, organization, and discovery of electronic documents that have become standard on complex commercial transactions. Our most senior attorneys have decades of experience navigating through complex commercial litigation matters and place a high value on collaboration with our client's in-house attorneys in order to optimize our legal efforts and maximize overall cost efficiency.

Some examples of commonly litigated transactions include:

- **Uniform Commercial Code (UCC):** Drawing on our broad experience in all aspects of the UCC, we help our clients find the right course of action to take when a dispute arises under the UCC.
- **Licensing and distribution agreements:** We frequently litigate licensing and distribution matters under state and federal law in a number of state and federal jurisdictions on behalf of our clients. This includes handling all issues that arise in the distributor/dealer relationship including, expansion, renewal and termination.
- **Purchase and sale agreements:** Purchasing or selling a business or property is a major transaction that can cause disputes and disagreements. Our team is experienced at handling these fact-intensive purchase and sale agreement cases in an efficient manner to obtain the most favorable outcome on behalf of our clients.
- **Partnership and shareholder disputes:** Whether it is a breach of shareholder fiduciary duty, conflict of interest, dissolution dispute, violation of a shareholder agreement, financial mismanagement or trade secret infringement, partnership and shareholder disputes can be costly and detrimental to the future of an organization. Our team is equipped to represent your interests in partnership and shareholder disputes in court while keeping your business and financial concerns top of mind.
- **Fraud:** We represent clients ranging from small businesses to large corporations and their insurers on fraud in business transactions and contracts and fraudulent practices, such as breach of contract, bribery and corruption, fraudulent concealment, intentional misrepresentation and embezzlement.
- **Business torts:** Our team handles all the issues that typically arise from commercial disputes, including tortious interference, unfair competition and commercial defamation. We are known for our attention to detail, courtroom prowess and track-record of success obtaining favorable verdicts in business tort litigation on behalf of our clients.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

GENERAL MATTERS

- Represent California software developer in successful contract-based arbitration against a Nevada casino customer
- Represent Swiss company in defending against contract-based claims by U.S. investor

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- Represented the members of a successful rock band in litigation over responsibility for injuries to those attending a large concert. The issues related to which party had contractual responsibility for safety of attendees and crowd control and behavior in the mosh pit as well as contractual indemnity questions.
- Successfully defended plumbing contractor against trademark infringement suit. We obtained complete summary judgment in favor of our client, and then successfully defended that judgment on appeal.

ATTORNEYS

- Sam E. Baker, Jr.
- Bryce D. Carroll
- William G. Cason
- Meghan A. Douris
- Eric P. Forner

- Michael C. Geraghty
- Ryan M. Gilchrist
- Craig A. Kisylia
- Thomas R. Krider
- Robert L. Leslie
- James F. Nagle
- Douglas S. Oles
- Bradley L. Powell
- Melia A. Preedy
- Peter N. Ralston
- J. Craig Rusk
- Ashley J. Sherwood
- Rebecca D. Takacs
- Jason R. Wandler
- David C. Weaver
- Deborah J. Wilson
- Nicole E. Wolfe

NEWS

- Congress allows tax deductibility for Paycheck Protection Program expenses
- Oles Morrison Announces Three Attorneys Promoted to Partner
- Got a PPP loan? IRS says you can't deduct expenses from them — at least for now
- Ashley Sherwood featured in the Seattle Edition of Americas Women's Magazine
- Oles Morrison is Ranked Among Nation's Top Law Firms by U.S. News – Best Lawyers® 2021 List
- Angelia Wesch is featured in America's Women's Magazine Seattle Edition
- ICYMI: The New Normal: Real Estate in the COVID Era
- Join Oles Morrison Partners Angelia Wesch, Michael Schmidt and Mark Fox of Flinn Ferguson on Sept 17th for "The New Normal: Real Estate in the COVID Era"
- Oles Morrison Rinker & Baker Attorneys Named to The Best Lawyers in America©
- Super Lawyers Selects Fourteen Oles Morrison Attorneys for inclusion in the 2020 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists.
- Insurer Liability for Business Closures due to COVID-19-Will Courts Find “Physical Loss or Damage”?
- Long-Time Firm Consultant John J. Reed, Jr. Dies After Contracting COVID-19
- Legal Eagle Angelia Wesch of Oles Morrison Rinker & Baker Embraces Change, Good Advice and Fearlessness
- President Trump Answers Small Business' Prayers; Signs CARES Act with Payroll Protection Program
- Washington's "Stay At Home" Proclamation: Construction Update
- Am I Covered? Business Interruption and Extra Expense Coverage for Clients Facing Losses Associated with Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- Firm Update: Reducing the Risk of COVID-19

- Oles Morrison Rinker & Baker Promotes Two Attorneys and Adds Two Associates
- Oles Morrison Names Jason Wandler New Managing Partner
- Jason Wandler Appointed as the Chair of Associated Builders & Contractors of Western Washington
- Oles Morrison is Ranked Among Nation's Top Law Firms by U.S. News – Best Lawyers®
- Nine Attorneys Were Selected For Inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2020
- Ten Attorneys Selected to the 2019 Washington Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
- Douglas Oles Appointed to Board of Trustees of the Beavers Charitable Trust
- Angelia Wesch ELEVATE Inspirator Award Finalist Announcement
- Oles Morrison is Ranked Among Nation's Top Law Firms by U.S. News – Best Lawyers®
- Oles Morrison Rinker & Baker LLP attorneys selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® 2019
- Nine Oles Morrison Attorneys Named to 2018 Washington Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists
- Publisher Chambers & Partners Recognized Oles Morrison Partner Barat LaPorte
- Serving Our Clients for 125 Years
- Angelia Wesch featured in King County Bar Association's Women Making History series
- Six E-Discovery Predictions For 2018
- Oles Morrison receives the Northwest Marketing & Communications Project of the Year Award from the Legal Marketing Association
- Oles Morrison is Ranked Among Nation's Top Law Firms by U.S. News – Best Lawyers®
- Oles Morrison Expands its California Litigation Department with Addition of Bryce Carroll
- Sam Baker and Auction of Washington Wines Raises Record Breaking \$4.1M
- Oles Morrison Rinker & Baker Attorneys Named "Best Lawyers in America"
- Six Oles Morrison Attorneys Named to 2017 Washington Super Lawyers® and Rising Stars Lists
- Oles Morrison is Ranked Among Nation's Top Law Firms by U.S. News – Best Lawyers®
- Congratulations to our six attorneys who were selected by their peers for inclusion in the 2017 edition of Best Lawyers in America.
- Doug Oles, Pete Ralston and Mike Geraghty Recognized by American Bar Foundation
- Oles Morrison Named 2016 Best Law Firm by U.S. News and Best Lawyers
- Angelia Wesch to Moderate Distinguished NAIOP Panel
- Super Lawyers Recognizes Six Oles Morrison Attorneys
- Oles Morrison Announces Two New Partners
- Oles Morrison Named 2015 Best Law Firm by U.S. News and Best Lawyers
- Super Lawyers Recognizes Nine Oles Morrison Attorneys
- Oles Morrison Welcomes Barat M. LaPorte as Partner in Alaska Office
- Oles Morrison Celebrates Historic 120th Year Milestone
- Oles Morrison to Host Women-Led Panel Discussion on Recent Changes in Additional Insured Status