

Drew J. Cunningham

Counsel

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Drew J. Cunningham advises corporate, institutional, nonprofit and individual clients on complex civil and commercial matters. He excels at managing every aspect of litigation and client service while identifying litigation and compliance risks. He has experience defending legacy railroads and shipowners against occupational exposure cases brought under the Federal Employers' Liability Act ("FELA"), the Jones Act and various state law theories. In addition, Drew has briefed or argued several assigned-counsel public defender appeals (both direct and habeas corpus) implicating weighty constitutional issues in the Connecticut Supreme and Appellate Courts.

Practice Areas

Transportation Defense
Toxic Tort and Environmental Litigation
Appellate
Products Liability and Mass Tort
Commercial Litigation

Education

University of Connecticut School of Law, J.D. - (2017)

Georgetown University
Bachelor of Arts, Classics, cum laude - (2014)

Bar Admissions

Arkansas
Connecticut
Ohio

Experience

- Experience managing all aspects of litigation and client service including conducting factual and legal research, curating discovery, drafting and arguing pleadings and motions, deposing and examining parties and witnesses, appearing at mediation, trial and arbitration, briefing and arguing appeals, coordinating with in-house counsel and identifying litigation and compliance risks.
- Drafted appellate briefs in successful appeals involving complex legal issues.
- Successfully drafted and argued dispositive motions resulting in dismissal.
- Oversaw discovery and managed document production in large civil suits involving complex matters and large institutional clients.
- Managed communications with clients, witnesses, and opposing counsel.
- Conducted depositions of plaintiffs, witnesses, and experts.
- Prepared complex briefs related to exclusion of expert witnesses.
- Counseled clients on subpoena/discovery compliance and the scope of relevant privileges.
- Counseled clients in the manufacturing, utility, construction, and service industries on regulatory, legal, and contractual compliance issues.
- Served as law clerk to Chief Judge of the Connecticut Appellate Court, the Hon. Alexandra D. DiPentima.

Representative Experience

- *Connecticut v. Jose A.B.,* 342 Conn. 489 (2022)
- *Pfister v. Madison Beach Hotel,* LLC, 197 Conn. App. 326 (2020) and 341 Conn. 702 (2022)
- *Fairlake Capital, LLC v. Lathouris*, 210 Conn. App. 801 (2022)
- *Reserve Realty v. Windemere Reserve,* 205 Conn. App. 299 (2021)
- *Coccomo v. Commissioner of Correction*, 203 Conn. App. 704 (2021)
- *In re: Elwell,* 807 Fed. Appx. 86 (2d Cir. 2020)

Professional Recognition

- Recipient, Thomas F. Gallivan, Jr. Memorial Award for Outstanding Scholastic Achievement in Property Law
- Recipient, CALI Excellence for the Future Award, Criminal Appellate Advocacy Clinic

Involvement

- American Bar Association
- Arkansas Bar Association
- Connecticut Bar Association
- New Haven County Bar Association
- Ohio State Bar Association
- Cincinnati Bar Association
- Former, Editor-in-Chief of the Connecticut Public Interest Law Journal