



## WILLIAM D. HAUPTMAN

### Associate

hauptman@wtotrial.com | P 303.244.0125

**Will Hauptman defends lawyers and law firms in complex legal professional liability matters nationwide. He also represents corporate clients in a range of commercial matters, including breach of contract. During his time in private practice, Will has gained valuable experience drafting dispositive and other significant motions, briefing appeals, and arguing motions both in court and in arbitration proceedings.**

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Won a permanent injunction for an AmLaw 200 law firm following a bench trial. Delivered the opening statement for the plaintiff group and conducted direct examinations of two witnesses at trial.
- Won motion to dismiss \$20 million malpractice claims brought in Connecticut against an AmLaw 200 firm. The allegations involved the firm's representation of a client in a bankruptcy proceeding. Drafted the motion and supporting briefs and coordinated the defense strategy for all co-defendants.
- Won a 15-day arbitration and drafted contested briefs resulting in recovery of all attorney fees and the confirmation of the awards for a law firm in a malpractice case arising out of a construction-defect lawsuit.
- Briefed a successful appeal in the Tenth Circuit for an AmLaw 100 firm reversing the denial of a motion to dismiss an adversary proceeding. The appeal involved a statutory construction issue of first impression.
- Argued and won a motion to strike an expert's testimony at an evidentiary hearing at which the plaintiffs unsuccessfully sought reconsideration of an order compelling arbitration.
- Briefed, argued, and won a motion to compel production of plaintiffs' communications with a law firm that represented the plaintiffs in an underlying matter which became the subject of the subsequent malpractice claims against WTO's clients.
- Won motion to dismiss \$150 million malpractice claims brought in Nevada against an AmLaw 200 firm. The allegations involved the accuracy of an underlying tax opinion.

### EDUCATION

University of Colorado Law School, J.D., 2017, Order of the Coif, *University of Colorado Law Review*, Vol. 88, Production Editor

University of Colorado, B.A., 2014, Economics & Political Science, *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

### GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Law Clerk to The Honorable Brian D. Boatright of the Colorado Supreme Court

Intern to The Honorable Christine M. Arguello of the United States District Court, District of Colorado

Intern at the Colorado Department of Law (Attorney General), Criminal Justice Section

Intern to The Honorable Brian D. Boatright of the Colorado Supreme Court

Law Clerk at the United States Attorney's Office, District of Colorado

Assistant to the Rules, Policies, and Records Administrator, Colorado Department of Transportation

### OTHER EXPERIENCE

Dentons US LLP, Summer Associate

### ADMISSIONS

Colorado

### INDUSTRIES

- Legal Services

### PRACTICE AREAS

- Professional Liability
- Commercial Litigation
- Appellate

# WILLIAM D. HAUPTMAN

# WILLIAM D. HAUPTMAN

## BIOGRAPHY

Will Hauptman defends lawyers and law firms in complex legal professional liability matters nationwide. He also represents corporate clients in a range of commercial matters, including breach of contract. During his time in private practice, Will has gained valuable experience examining witnesses and making an opening statement at trial, taking and defending depositions, drafting dispositive and other significant motions, briefing appeals, and arguing motions both in court and in arbitration proceedings.

Before he joined WTO, Will was a law clerk to the Honorable Brian D. Boatright of the Colorado Supreme Court. He earned his J.D. from the University of Colorado Law School, where he graduated Order of the Coif, served as a Production Editor on the University of Colorado Law Review, and was chairperson of the law school's Honor Council and Barristers' Council, Moot Court Division. In law school, Will provided over 650 hours of pro bono legal services to low-income clients and public-interest groups, including an organization that helps farmers in Colorado's San Luis Valley secure water rights.

## CASES

- Won a permanent injunction for an AmLaw 200 law firm following a bench trial. Delivered the opening statement for the plaintiff group and conducted direct examinations of two witnesses at trial.
- Won motion to dismiss \$20 million malpractice claims brought in Connecticut against an AmLaw 200 firm. The allegations involved the firm's representation of a client in a bankruptcy proceeding. Drafted the motion and supporting briefs and coordinated the defense strategy for all co-defendants.
- Won a 15-day arbitration and drafted contested briefs resulting in recovery of all attorney fees and the confirmation of the awards for a law firm in a malpractice case arising out of a construction-defect lawsuit.
- Briefed a successful appeal in the Tenth Circuit for an AmLaw 100 firm reversing the denial of a motion to dismiss an adversary proceeding. The appeal involved a statutory construction issue of first impression.
- Argued and won a motion to strike an expert's testimony at an evidentiary hearing at which the plaintiffs unsuccessfully sought reconsideration of an order compelling arbitration.
- Briefed, argued, and won a motion to compel production of plaintiffs' communications with a law firm that represented the plaintiffs in an underlying matter which became the subject of the subsequent malpractice claims against WTO's clients.

# WILLIAM D. HAUPTMAN

- Won motion to dismiss \$150 million malpractice claims brought in Nevada against an AmLaw 200 firm. The allegations involved the accuracy of an underlying tax opinion.
- Coordinated and won a motion to dismiss for approximately 20 defendants in a civil rights case against Colorado law enforcement officials. The defendants were represented by firms across Colorado.

## BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Colorado
  - U.S. Court of Appeals, 10th Circuit
  - U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit
  - U.S. District Court, D. Colorado

## LEGAL MEMBERSHIPS, ACTIVITIES & HONORS

- ABA Standing Committee on Lawyers' Professional Liability, Fellow, August 2025 – Present
  - Colorado Supreme Court, Committee on Pattern Civil Jury Instructions
  - Colorado Bar Association Ethics Committee, Member
  - Minoru Yasui Inn of Court, Treasurer
  - Colorado Bar Association, Member
  - Denver Bar Association, Member
  - American Bar Association, Member
  - Colorado Super Lawyers
    - Rising Stars, Professional Liability: Defense, 2023-2024
  - University of Colorado Law Review, Vol. 88
    - "Outstanding Board Member"
  - University of Colorado Law School Student Bar Association
    - David M. Sutcliffe Distinguished Student Award Recipient, 2017
  - University of Colorado Law School Public Service Pledge
    - Most Hours of Pro Bono Work from the Class of 2017

## COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIPS, ACTIVITIES & HONORS

- Constitution Day Volunteer, Byron R. White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law

## ARTICLES & PRESENTATIONS

### Articles

- Co-Author, "The Duty of Competence in the New Normal," *Colorado Lawyer*, (July 2021).
- Co-Author, "Practical Considerations for Rule 21 Proceedings in the Colorado Supreme Court," *Denver Law Review*, (March 2019).

# WILLIAM D. HAUPTMAN

## **Presentations**

- Co-presenter, "I Didn't Know That! Little Known Facts and Common Misperceptions About Ethics," American Bar Association CLE webinar (December 28, 2022).

## **Other Articles/Presentations**

- *What Remains of the Exclusionary Rule?*, 88 U. Colo L. Rev. Online, (August 2017).

## **PERSONAL INTERESTS**

- Scuba diving, cooking, reading & cheering on the Colorado Buffaloes