



Eric Maxfield

Partner

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Eric is an experienced trial lawyer, litigator, and advisor who advocates for clients involved in complex and high-stakes corporate disputes.

Eric represents clients of all sizes, from local and regional businesses located throughout the Intermountain West to significant Fortune 500 corporations headquartered throughout the nation. He has obtained significant victories for technology startups, privately held companies, and Fortune 500 corporations. He leverages his more than two decades of litigation experience to try noteworthy matters in state and federal courts, guiding clients through all aspects of complex business litigation while keeping their business goals at the forefront.

Areas of special focus. Eric represents clients in disputes involving fiduciary duty claims, professional liability and malpractice, class actions, intellectual property, healthcare, and insurance.

Recognized by his peers. Eric is regularly recognized in peer-review publications for his skills in business litigation. *Chambers USA* states, "He has a great ability to take complex situations and present them in an easily digestible manner."

PRACTICES

Business Litigation
Data Privacy and Information Security
Intellectual Property Litigation
Stakeholder Disputes
Real Estate Litigation
Trade Secrets and Non-Competes
Trust and Estate Litigation

INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources
Healthcare

EDUCATION

Georgetown University, J.D., 1997
cum laude

University of Utah, B.A., 1994
magna cum laude

BAR ADMISSIONS

Utah

EXPERIENCE

- Jury trials, bench trials, arbitrations
- Professional liability and malpractice
- Breach of contract
- Breach of fiduciary duty
- Shareholder and corporate ownership disputes
- False Claims Act and Qui Tam
- Trade secrets and noncompete litigation
- Intellectual property disputes
- Defamation and libel litigation
- Probate, trust, and estate litigation
- Owner- side construction defect disputes
- Real estate litigation
- Fraud

- Business dissolution
- Software licensing
- Catastrophic injury

CLIENT RESULTS

Business Litigation

Defended premier law firm against breach of fiduciary duty and malpractice claims of \$300 million

Represented professional service firm in malpractice and joint venture disputes.

Defended corporations in products liability and premises liability matters.

Defended a manufacturer against federal government allegations of violations of the False Claims Act.

Defended companies in internal disputes.

Defended corporations against class action allegations.

Represented corporations and individuals in real estate disputes.

Represented owners and professional firms in construction defect and engineering malpractice matters.

Assisted companies with internal investigations and OSHA investigations resulting from fatality accidents.

Assisted a major natural gas pipeline company in defeating claims at trial for \$500 million, and then obtaining, in the same case, a judgment for \$110 million on a counterclaim

Represented companies in distributorship disputes.

Represented governmental entity and associated contractor in water rights dispute.

Represented energy fund in lender liability dispute.

Successfully represented premier litigator in defeat of malpractice claims.

Represented direct sales company in action to protect restrictive covenants.

Represent government and quasi-governmental entities in variety of complex litigation matters.

Successfully resolved owner / engineer claims and counterclaims related to sophisticated pollution control equipment, including claims for breach of contract, negligent engineering and manufacture, and breach of warranty.

Defeated claims against premier law firm for breach of fiduciary duty and malpractice by former clients.

Defended a technology services company in Utah federal court against a former employee's claims of securities fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, and breach of contract.

In a case inherited from another law firm, defeated significant pending claim for attorneys' fees under Utah Bad Faith statute involving LLC dispute.

Successfully resolved highly publicized trade secret claims in Delaware State Court on eve of trial.

Multiple corporate-side representations (including of direct selling companies) in claims involving trade secrets, breach of non-compete, and breach of non-solicitation allegations.

Successfully obtained complete judgment in wholesale manufacturer's favor and defeated claims for unfair competition asserted by corporate guarantors and distributors for breach of guaranty and breach of contract, United States District Court, District of Utah.

Successfully represented Trustee in action by former spouse to break Trust and Estate documents.

Multiple representations of sellers and customers in SaaS and software disputes.

Multiple representations on behalf of owner / landlords in commercial leasing disputes.

Represented major transportation company in a series of commercial disputes.

Represented a utility in a series of significant power purchase disputes.

Obtained jury trial defense verdict for manufacturing client in license and product quality dispute, US District Court, Eastern District of California.

Multiple representations of corporate entities against claims for catastrophic injury.

Successfully represented founder of large manufacturing enterprise against claims of mental incompetency by family member.

Defeated defamation claims involving \$25 million in US District Court, District of Utah.

Successfully represented client in high-profile defamation dispute.

Represent board of directors in defamation, tortious interference, and breach of fiduciary duty action.

Represented direct sales company against international distributors' defamation of client.

Represented natural resources company against accusations of commercial defamation involving right to petition the government.

Intellectual Property Matters

Defended a major aerospace company against allegations of patent infringement.

Represented a tech company in significant patent disputes.

Prosecuted, on behalf of a large technology company, claims of patent infringement.

Catastrophic Accident Matters

Multiple representations of corporate entities in significant personal injury defense matters.

Represented property owner in catastrophic trucking yard accident dispute.

Represented major transportation carrier in catastrophic accident investigation.

Represented major transportation carrier in multi-fatality accident dispute.

Healthcare and Insurance Matters

Represented regional hospital against commercial claims by former physician.

Represented health care district against claims involving hospital privileges by physicians.

Represented medical industry insurer in various corporate matters.

Assisted companies with insurance coverage disputes and insurance-related counseling.

Assisted multiple rural health care providers form rural health cooperative network.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Just What You Always Wanted – Ethics Advice to Corporate Counsel from Corporate Litigators," Co-Presenter, *Fall Forum for Utah Bar's Corporate Counsel Section*, November 1, 2024

"Litigation for In-House Counsel," *Holland & Hart 2024 CLE Program for In-House Counsel*, May 20, 2024

"Ethics and Civility," *Holland & Hart 2023 Employment Law Seminar*, February 21, 2023

RECOGNITION

- Federal Bar Association – Utah Chapter, Pro Bono Service Award, 2022
- *Chambers USA*, Litigation: General Commercial, 2016-2018, 2022-2024
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Litigation – Intellectual Property, 2013-2025; Commercial Litigation, 2018-2025
- Mountain States Super Lawyers®, Business Litigation, 2012-2024
- Mountain States Super Lawyers® Rising Stars, Business Litigation, 2008, 2009
- *Utah Business Magazine*, Utah Legal Elite, Civil Litigation

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Sherman A. Christensen Inn of Court I, Master of the Bench
- Leadership Utah, Salt Lake Chamber, Class of 2011
- ABA State Survey of Class Action Law, Utah Class Action Law, Editor, 2009-present
- Business and Commercial Litigation in Federal Courts, 3rd Ed., on Energy Litigation, Contributor
- Utah State Bar - Futures Commission, Member
- Utah State Bar, Member
- State Bar of Arizona, Member