HUSCH BLACKWELL

Jason J. Montgomery

PARTNER

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OVERVIEW

A former NCAA investigator, Jason represents colleges, universities, and athletes nationwide in enforcement, eligibility, and compliance matters.

Jason leverages over 20 years of legal and athletics regulatory experience that includes a distinctive combination of experience at the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA), in the athletics department at a Division I Power 5 school, and in private practice to assist clients in navigating NCAA rules and resolving complex legal and regulatory issues that affect college athletics programs and athletes. In addition to his private practice, Jason has served in multiple regulatory positions at the NCAA, including as an investigator and an academic and membership affairs staff member responsible for NCAA waivers and rules interpretations. His background at the NCAA National Office and thereafter as a compliance administrator at North Carolina State University allows him to analyze NCAA rules and other athletics legal and regulatory issues from multiple perspectives, guide clients through NCAA and other regulatory processes efficiently, and engage in proactive planning related to legal and regulatory issues affecting college athletics programs. When sensitive challenges and disputes do

"Jason Montgomery is pragmatic and does a good job of helping think through different options. He is also a solid writer and is very responsive."

— Chambers USA 2026

Industry

Education

Services

Collegiate Athletics
Higher Education
Title IX

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arise, Jason works closely with clients for the best possible outcomes. Jason has represented and counseled clients regarding:

- *House* settlement
- Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) and NIL collectives
- Athlete eligibility
- College Sports Commission (CSC) enforcement
- CSC arbitration
- NCAA enforcement investigations and alleged infractions
- Independent investigations of coaches' conduct, student-athlete safety and well-being issues, and athletics department and sports program climate
- Title IX gender equity in athletics
- Contracts (NIL, coaches, athletics departments)
- Olympic and Paralympic athlete issues
- NCAA policy on campus sexual violence
- NCAA waivers
- NCAA compliance reviews
- NCAA infractions appeals
- Athletics conferences bylaws, policies, and procedures
- Athletics department policies and procedures evaluation
- NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA and amateur sports organizations' rules interpretations

Jason supports Team USA Olympic and Paralympic athletes through the Athlete Commercial Agreements Resource Program. The program provides any Team USA athlete, who does not have an agent already, the ability to consult with an agent or attorney regarding their rights, obligations, and opportunities in the marketplace, as well as to seek guidance on the commercial terms and impact of any contract or agreement.

Based on his time working on campus at North Carolina State University, Jason understands the real-world challenges clients face. Jason aims to act as a true teammate in creating strategies that

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streamline compliance benchmarks and resolve disputes in the most effective manner possible while never forgetting the most important goal: athletes' academic and athletic success.

Experience

- Represented Division I member institution before Division I Committee on Infractions in contested case and successfully defended institution against charge of lack of institutional control.
- Served as outside counsel and NCAA regulatory affairs advisor to NCAA Division I Conference addressing a variety of legal and NCAA issues, including the effects of *NCAA v. Alston*; NCAA Name, Image, and Likeness Interim Policy; Intellectual Property; Conference Bylaws; and NCAA compliance matters.
- Represented Southeastern Conference (SEC) university before Division I Committee on Infractions and successfully resolved recruiting violations alleged as Level II with committee, accepting university's self-imposed penalties.
- Counseled NCAA Division I, II, and III and NAIA member institutions on issues related to Name, Image, and Likeness, including NCAA Interim Policy and multiple state laws.
- Represented NCAA Division I and Olympic athlete in issues related to application of NCAA rules and negotiation of contract for the use of athlete's Name, Image, and Likeness.
- Represented Pac 12 institution in NCAA amateurism review of Division I men's basketball student-athlete and successfully advocated for student-athlete's immediate eligibility.
- Represented multiple student-athletes in NCAA enforcement staff interviews and NCAA infractions matters.
- Drafted, reviewed, and revised coaches' contracts.
- Drafted, reviewed, and revised athletics conference bylaws.
- Conducted Title IX gender equity review for NCAA Division I institution and counseled institution on compliance issues.

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Experience

- Conducted independent review on behalf of Big 10 university of potential NCAA violations involving head coach's provision of extra benefits to student-athlete, self-reported violations to NCAA and worked with NCAA enforcement staff on behalf of university to resolve infractions case with Division I Committee on Infractions utilizing negotiated resolution process.
- Represented Division III college in NCAA investigation related to impermissible financial aid awards provided to student-athletes and successfully resolved case on behalf of college with Division III Committee on Infractions.
- Successfully advocated for multiple student-athletes through NCAA waiver and student-athlete reinstatement processes addressing issues related to transfer eligibility, medical hardships, seasons of competition, and penalties for violations, among other issues, through collaboration with student-athletes and their families, and NCAA member institution.
- Conducted independent investigation of Division I coach's conduct that allegedly negatively impacted health and safety of student-athletes on the sport team that included interviews with multiple coaches, student-athletes, and administrators.
- Conducted multiple reviews of Division I member institutions athletics compliance systems to identify areas of potential vulnerability and provide proactive solutions.
- Guided NCAA Division I, II, and III institutions in responding to allegations of potential NCAA rules violations both from external individuals, news reports, in conjunctions with internal reviews, or as part of an NCAA inquiry.
- Consulted with student-athletes and their families regarding the application of NCAA rules in their unique circumstances.
- As member of NCAA enforcement staff, investigated and resolved major infractions cases (now Level I or II cases), and presented cases on behalf of NCAA enforcement staff to Division I, II, and III Committees on Infractions.

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Experience

- As member of NCAA academic and membership affairs staff, assisted Division I, II, and III member institutions with all aspects of regulatory environment including Legislative Relief Waivers, Initial- and Continuing-Eligibility Waivers, and Interpretations of NCAA legislation.
- As liaison to Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, developed and implemented national partnership between NCAA Division III and Special Olympics North America (SONA).

Recognition

- *Chambers USA*, Higher Education, Nationwide, 2026
- *The Legal 500 United States*, Education Recommended lawyer, 2025 and 2026

Education

- J.D., University of Kansas School of Law
- B.A., Baker University
    - *cum laude*

Admissions

- Kansas
- Missouri
- U.S. District Court, District of Kansas

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Community Leadership

- Baker University, parMentor Program Mentor
- Baker University, School of Graduate and Professional Studies, Masters of Science in Sports Management, adjunct faculty member
- University of Iowa Infractions Hearing Competition, Volunteer Judge

2026 NCAA Compliance Report

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