



Spencer Tolson

ASSOCIATE

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OVERVIEW

Spencer advocates for clients in complex commercial litigation matters.

Time abroad as a teen left Spencer fascinated by differing legal systems, and he came to see law as the foundation for society. He credits life in the U.S. to the country's incredible judicial system and was motivated to pursue a legal career so that he could play a role in that system himself.

While Spencer's competitive nature automatically drew him to litigation, serving three clerkships after law school confirmed his interest. Spencer clerked for the Eastern District of Kentucky and the District of Guam, as well as for the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He had myriad opportunities to observe how stellar attorneys argued their cases, and he developed a keen understanding of judicial thinking: Spencer intuitively grasps where the sticking point in a case will be for a judge, and he constructs his argument accordingly. His extensive time in the courts also helped him understand both sides of a case, a perspective that lets him anticipate how the opposition will argue and always remain a step ahead.

Spencer's experience in Guam let him dive particularly deep into complex legal matters. Given its unique status as an unincorporated territory, Guam's courts routinely see and analyze creative arguments concerning unsettled questions about territorial sovereign immunity and constitutional rights for territorial citizens. Additionally, the District of Guam is one of a handful of federal district courts that doubles as a bankruptcy court, and thus Spencer routinely handled bankruptcy proceedings in addition to civil and criminal matters. What was learned at the trial level was solidified during his experience clerking at the largest federal appellate court in the country. After

Industries

Manufacturing

Technology

Transportation

Services

Commercial Litigation

Litigation & Alternative Dispute
Resolution

having received top-tier mentorship and advising appellate panels on dozens of cases, Spencer has a unique understanding of what needs to happen during trial proceedings to be successful on appeal.

Today, Spencer represents clients in general commercial litigation cases and business disputes. While he works with a wide variety of cases, he has a particular interest in bankruptcy, securities litigation, constitutional matters, arbitration and immigration.

In addition to his ability to anticipate opposing arguments and a judge's thinking, Spencer is known as an attorney who always has the client's back. He understands how stressful and disruptive litigation is and how high the stakes can be for a business, and he aims to be available and accessible whenever and wherever a client needs assistance. Spencer can promise clients that he'll always outwork the other side.

Education

- J.D., University of Idaho College of Law
 - *summa cum laude*
 - *Idaho Law Review*, Chief Symposium Editor
- B.S., Brigham Young University
 - Economics

Admissions

- Idaho
- Missouri
- Texas
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas

Clerkships

- Honorable William O. Bertelsman, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky
- Honorable Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, U.S. District Court for the District of Guam
- Honorable Danielle J. Forrest, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Community Leadership

Spencer and his wife are extensively involved with their church and frequently oversee youth programming. He has previously served as a volunteer missionary in Bolivia.



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