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Associate

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Jeffrey is a trial lawyer who represents insurance companies and professionals in complex business litigation and insurance defense cases in state and federal courts and federal arbitration forums.

Clients consistently describe Jeffrey as an advocate and a trusted advisor. He makes sure every client feels personally involved and cared for throughout the litigation process. He continues to have personal relationships with many former clients.

Jeffrey will not hesitate to go to trial, but, when it is in the client's best interest, he will work tirelessly to obtain early resolution. He has negotiated the dismissal of multiple cases without settlement, or an adverse judgment being entered against his client. Jeffrey also effectively utilizes motion practice to obtain great results for his clients. He recently prevailed on summary judgment at the district court level, which was affirmed by the Idaho Supreme Court, in a medical malpractice case in which he was defending a hospital. He also obtained dismissal in a federal case where the plaintiff sought more than \$500,000 in damages for alleged physical injuries and disability discrimination in violation of the federal Fair Housing Act. The case was ultimately dismissed on summary judgment after prevailing on several motions related to the exclusion of evidence and expert testimony.

Jeffrey's professional experience also includes:

- Working as an **associate attorney** at a Boise-based civil litigation law firm where he represented clients in auto accidents, commercial trucking, employment discrimination, workplace injury, and premises liability cases.

- Serving as the **Director of Workforce Management** at BNSF Railway in Fort Worth, Texas. In this role, Jeffrey prepared briefs for collective bargaining agreement disputes and argued their merits in arbitration. He **argued over 200 cases in arbitration** and was the lead representative for BNSF in cases involving former employees attempting to return to work after claiming a permanent disability. He handled labor disputes for a territory that included eight states and over 6,000 employees on BNSF's Southern Transcon and Powder River coal routes and served as lead negotiator for local and system-wide collective bargaining agreements.
- Working as an **associate attorney** at a law firm in Grand Junction, Colorado where he represented local businesses in general litigation matters and private clients in family law matters. In this role, Jeffrey first chaired a trial in a Colorado Fair Debt Collection Practices defense case, and he also obtained a voluntary dismissal with prejudice from opposing counsel without incurring any costs for his client shortly after arguing a summary judgment motion on a breach of contract claim.
- Serving as a **judicial extern** to Judge N. Randy Smith of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit.

Jeffrey provides pro bono legal services to clients through the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program (IVLP). He educates clients on the Idaho Small Claims Court process, and represents clients in landlord-tenant, family law, and small business matters. As eviction cases began to rise during the COVID-19 pandemic, Jeffrey worked with IVLP and Idaho Legal Services to develop a plan for assisting tenants involved in eviction proceedings. In one instance, he stepped in to represent a tenant on less than 18-hours' notice and the parties were able to reach an agreement to give the tenant an additional 30 days to pay her rent.

Jeffrey is admitted to practice in Idaho and Colorado (*inactive*).

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- Boise Adjusters Association, Member
- Defense Research Institute (DRI), Member
- Defense Research Institute (DRI) Litigation Skills Publication, Committee Member
- Idaho Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), Member
- Idaho State Bar Appellate Law Section, Member
- Idaho State Bar Young Lawyers section, Chair (2020-present)
 - Jeffrey is serving his second term as the Chair of the Young Lawyers Section

SELECT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Author, "You Gotta Fight For Your Right to Ex Parte!," *Idaho Association of Defense Counsel (IADC): The Dynamic of Civil Defense*, Summer 2021
- Author, "Your Reputation: Own It, Build It, Protect It," *The Advocate*, Vol. 63, No. 8 (August 2020) (Featured Article)
- CLE Moderator: "Recent Changes in State Courts," Idaho State Bar Young Lawyers Section, Boise, Idaho (May 2020)

- CLE Moderator: “Recent Changes in Federal Courts,” Idaho State Bar Young Lawyers Section, Boise, Idaho (May 2020)
- CLE Moderator: “The COVID-19 Courtroom: Changes in Juror Attitudes and Trial Presentation Strategies,” Idaho State Bar Young Lawyers Section, Boise, Idaho (July 2020)
- Author, “Six Suggestions for Staying Afloat in a Competitive Job Pool,” *Colorado Lawyer* (February 2014)

IRRELEVANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Jeffrey placed 3rd in a Georgia statewide math skills competition during his junior year in high school. During the speed problem solving portion of the competition, he was asked to quickly calculate the sum of all the page numbers in *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. He correctly answered 202,566 through a quick arithmetic sequence calculation.
- Jeffrey rushed the field with his brother and the rest of the Vandal fans after the University of Idaho won on a two-point conversion in the 2009 Humanitarian Bowl.
- Jeffrey enjoys outdoor endurance races. He has completed several half marathons, a full marathon, several triathlons, and an Ironman 70.3 in Chattanooga, TN. However, his toughest race was the Ragnar Texas Trail Relay, where he raced on an ultra-team that completed 120.8 miles over a 24-hour period in the Texas Hill Country.

EDUCATION

- University of Tennessee, B.A. in Legal Studies
- University of Idaho College of Law, J.D.