



→ Abraham J. Shanedling

Associate

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Abram Shanedling is an associate in the Business Trial Practice Group in the firm's Washington, D.C. office and a member of the firm's Telecom Team.

Areas of Practice

Abram focuses his practice on business litigation and technical regulatory compliance matters. He represents clients before federal and state trial and appellate courts across the country as well as federal and state administrative agencies in complex and high stakes matters ranging from commercial disputes and products liability litigation to controversies involving statutory, constitutional, communications, environmental, privacy, and administrative law issues.

Abram regularly represents cable operators and other broadband providers in a wide range of regulatory, litigation, and transactional matters. These include disputes related to local franchising, rights-of-way, PEG programming, pole attachments and infrastructure deployment and a host of other related issues. He regularly represents providers on these issues in state and federal courts and participates in rulemakings and adjudications before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and state public service commissions.

In addition to his practice, Abram is actively involved in the firm, currently serving on Sheppard Mullin's Pro Bono Committee, Recruiting Committee, and Associates' Forum. Abram is dedicated to pro bono representation and public interest litigation in Washington, D.C. and across the country. Abram has represented several clients in immigration and asylum matters, successfully aided a federal inmate in securing compassionate release, and is currently representing a not-for-profit organization in environmental litigation arising under the Clean Water Act concerning the Bristol Bay region of Southwest Alaska.

Abram previously served as a law clerk for the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary and as a legal intern in the Office of the Chief Counsel of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Aside from his practice, he is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University Law Center, where he teaches a course on Legal Research, Analysis and Writing.

Honors

- Ones to Watch – Litigation, *Best Lawyers*, 2021-2023
- Recommended Attorney - Telecoms and Broadcast: Regulatory, *Legal 500 US*, 2019-2022

- Burton Distinguished Legal Writing Award, 2015
- Washington, D.C. Rising Star, *Super Lawyers*, 2020-2022

Experience

Representative Matters:

- Represents national cable operator in litigation in federal and state court regarding franchise fees, access to rights-of-way, and pole attachments.
- Successfully represented national cable operator at Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals and Southern District of Indiana in case affirming that Section 621 of the federal Cable Act authorizes cable operators' compatible use of easements dedicated to utility purposes. See *West v. Louisville Gas & Elec. Co. et al*, No. 4:16-cv-00145RLYTAB, 2018 WL 321686 (S.D. Ind. Jan. 8, 2018), *appeal dismissed*, 920 F.3d 499 (7th Cir. 2019), and *aff'd sub nom.* 951 F.3d 827 (7th Cir. 2020).
- Represents a broad coalition of cable providers in pole attachment rulemaking proceedings before state public utilities commissions, including in Maine, Texas, Connecticut, Louisiana, and Georgia.
- Obtained a landmark appellate victory for not-for-profit organization at Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals for not-for-profit organization on issue of first impression under the Clean Water Act and Administrative Procedure Act. *Trout Unlimited v. Pirzadeh*, 1 F.4th 738 (9th Cir. 2021).
- Represented national cable operator in obtaining unanimous victory before the Texas Supreme Court regarding uniform pole attachment rate and anti-discrimination requirements in the Texas Public Utility Regulatory Act. *Time Warner Cable Texas LLC v. CPS Energy*, 593 S.W.3d 291 (Tex. 2019).
- Obtained dismissal of breach contract and various tort claims against technology services client in North Carolina federal court.
- Secured dismissal of all claims brought against government defense/robotics contractor for defamation, tortious interference with contractual relationships, civil conspiracy and unfair competition. *Robo-Team NA, Inc. v. Endeavor Robotics*, 313 F. Supp. 3d 19 (D.D.C. 2018).
- Successfully represented the Louisiana Cable & Telecommunications Association in negotiating favorable settlement of claims brought by electric utility company before the Louisiana Public Service Commission regarding pole attachment rental rates.
- Represented national cable operator in defeating a request for a temporary restraining order and a motion to remand, and securing voluntary dismissal of breach of contract action brought by landowner in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas. See *Smalley v. Charter Commc'ns Holding Co., LLC*, 2017 WL 7520467 (N.D. Tex. Apr. 10, 2017); 2017 WL 2335518 (N.D. Tex. May 26, 2017).
- Represented federal inmate suffering severe sickle cell anemia in obtaining early compassionate release under federal First Step Act.
- Pursued and conducted all phases of litigation in multiple state and federal actions across the country.
- Represents clients from across the country and in different industries in commercial litigation matters.
- Advises clients on compliance with telecommunications laws and regulations.

Articles

- How a Consumer Group's Cybersecurity Initiative Could Shape the Market
Morning Consult, 06.12.2017
- "Removing Weapons of Mass Destruction From the World's Most Volatile Region: How to Achieve a WMD-Free Zone in the Middle East," 46 *Georgetown Journal of International Law* 315, 2014

Class Action Defense Strategy Blog Posts

- "Second Circuit Affirms "Snap" Removal Practice," March 29, 2019

FCC Law Blog Posts

- "Sunshine State Becomes 24th to Certify Regulation of Pole Attachments," June 14, 2022
- "The FCC's Latest Pole Attachment Ruling: "Just Another Brick In The Wall" for Electric Utilities, or "Satisfaction" for ILECS?," September 30, 2021
- "Sixth Circuit Affirms FCC Rule That Most In Kind Contributions Are Franchise Fees," June 2, 2021
- "Ninth Circuit Rejects Challenges to FCC's One-Touch Make-Ready, Small Cell Deployment, and Local Moratoria Orders," August 18, 2020
- "FCC Seeks "Large Step" Toward Advancing Broadband Infrastructure Goals With Draft One-Touch Make-Ready Order," July 16, 2017

Media Mentions

Judge Tosses Trump-Era Pebble Mine Approval in Bristol Bay
Bloomberg Law, 11.01.2021

EPA Says Decision Paving Way For Pebble Mine Must Go
Law360, 09.29.2021

EPA Moves To Block Pebble Mine Again
Law360, 09.09.2021

EPA Reversal on Pebble Mine Pollution Limits is Reviewable
Bloomberg Law: Environment & Energy, 06.17.2021

9th Circuit revives lawsuit over Alaska's Pebble Mine project
Reuters, 06.17.2021

9th Circ. Says EPA's Move On Alaska Mine Can Be Challenged
Law360, 06.17.2021

Enviros Can Restart Alaska Mine Suit Despite COVID-19 Stay
Law360, 04.10.2020

Enviros Seek Restart In Alaska Mine Suit Despite Virus Pause
Law360, 04.07.2020

7th Circ. Lets Charter Run Fiber Over Litigant's Land
Law360, 03.03.2020

Native, Green Groups Want Pebble Mine Restrictions Revived
Law360, 02.03.2020

EPA Says It Can't Be Sued For Nixing Pebble Mine Restrictions
Law360, 12.11.2019

Fishing Industry News: Trout Unlimited Sues EPA; Florida Moves to Protect Shoal Bass
Grand View Outdoors, 10.14.2019

Daily Dicta: Sheppard Mullin Goes Fishing for Justice
Law.com, 10.10.2019

EPA Sued For Lifting Restrictions On Pebble Mine Project
Law360, 10.09.2019

Trout Unlimited Joins Legal Fray over EPA's Pebble Mine Plan
Bloomberg Environment, 10.09.2019

Texas Justices Side With Time Warner In Utility Fees Row
Law360, 05.17.2019

Appeal Of Charter's Exit From Tower Suit Premature: 7th Circ.
Law360, 04.05.2019

Time Warner Tells Texas Justices Utility's Fees Discriminatory
Law360, 01.24.2019

Memberships

- Co-Chair, State & Local Practice Committee, Federal Communications Bar Association
- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Federal Communications Bar Association
- Member, Bar Association of the District of Columbia

Practices

Litigation

Governmental Practice

Public Policy and Government Affairs

Class Action Defense

Government Contracts

Trade Secrets

Industries

Telecom

Education

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 2015, *cum laude*, Managing Editor, *Georgetown Journal of International Law*

B.A., University of Wisconsin, 2009, *with honors*

Admissions

District of Columbia

Maryland

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas