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## PRACTICE AREAS

- Commercial Litigation
- Government Defense
- Governments
- Intellectual Property
- Intellectual Property Litigation
- Recreation and Entertainment

## EDUCATION

- J.D., Notre Dame School of Law, magna cum laude, Thomas J. White Scholar, 2011
- M.A., Utah State University, History, 2007
- B.A. Eastern Oregon University, cum laude, Liberal Studies, 2004

## ADMISSION

- Utah State Bar
- U.S. District Court, District of Utah
- Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals

## LANGUAGES

- Latin

## ABOUT

LaShel Shaw is an accomplished litigation attorney with expertise in both intellectual property and government defense. Whether she's representing an artist whose work is being used without compensation, a company defending its trademarks, or a municipality accused of wrongful use of deadly force, LaShel brings insight, empathy, and ingenuity to bear. Those who have worked with LaShel describe her as driven, a gifted writer, and able to quickly hone in on the issues that truly matter.

With respect to intellectual property, LaShel understands the unique legal challenges facing designers, creators, and authors, as well as the companies that hire them. She has experience with matters involving patent validity and ownership, copyright infringement, joint or contested authorship, trademarks, trade secrets, and false advertising. LaShel has successfully handled messy unfair competition claims, contested trademark registrations, and tough allegations of fair use.

As a government defense attorney, LaShel is well-versed in the Utah Governmental Immunity Act and qualified immunity. She has defended government entities, law enforcement officers, and jail nurses in cases alleging deliberate indifference and unlawful force, and is experienced in First Amendment retaliation and malicious prosecution claims. She also has successfully defended over a dozen property tax appeals (for both centrally-assessed and locally-assessed properties) and property tax exemption requests.

Prior to joining SCM, LaShel worked in the Salt Lake County District Attorney's Office as a civil litigator, where she represented the county in a wide variety of legal disputes. She was also previously a shareholder at Parr Brown Gee & Loveless, focusing on commercial litigation, intellectual property, and entertainment law, and worked as a law clerk for the Honorable Clark Waddoups of the Federal District of Utah.

Outside of the office, LaShel enjoys reading cookbooks, playing RPGs, and taking long walks through the city with her dog. She had an unusually academic childhood — graduating from college with her bachelor's degree at age sixteen — and worked as a newspaper reporter for the Mt. Pleasant Pyramid before attending graduate school, where she defended a master's thesis on medieval Viking religion.

## HONORS / AWARDS / UNIQUE RECOGNITION

- Thomas J. White Scholar
- Dean's List
- Graduated magna cum laude
- Externship for Magistrate Judge David Nuffer of the Federal District of Utah

- Executive Article Editor for the Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics, and Public Policy

## **PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT**

- Fellow, Second Chair Program of the Utah Criminal Justice Act Panel
- Editor, Utah Bar Journal Committee
- Co-Chair, Utah Bar Review
- Member, Women Lawyers of Utah Retreat Committee
- Member, David K Watkiss Sutherland II American Inn of Court
- Member, International Association of Assessing Officers
- Fellow, Utah Bar Leadership Academy, Class of 2017
- Graduate, Women Leadership Institute, Class of 2019
- Co-founder, Entertainment Law Section of the Utah Bar
- Former Officer and Fiduciary Board Member, Utah Center for Legal Inclusion
- Former Chair, Government and Administrative Law Section of the Utah Bar
- Former Board Member, Utah Arts Alliance
- Former Community Council Co-Chair, FanX

## **TRIALS**

### **Commercial Litigation**

- *Western Energy Partners v. Raven Mining Company*, Third District Court. Successfully defended Raven Mining and its owners on all claims through a four day jury trial.

### **Government Defense**

- *PacifiCorp v. Utah Tax Commission*, Second District Court. Defended property tax appeal brought by utility company on behalf of Salt Lake County in two week bench trial, obtained result favorable to client.

### **Appeals**

- *Patience v. Salt Lake County Board of Equalization*, Utah Court of Appeals, 2021 UT App 4. Successfully defended taxpayer appeal; court upheld original assessment.
- *ACLU v. Utah*, Utah Supreme Court. Obtained dismissal of petition for extraordinary relief brought by ACLU against various governmental entities seeking release of incarcerated individuals due to COVID-19.
- *Maak v. IHC Health Services*, Utah Court of Appeals, 2016 UT App 73. Represented plaintiff in class action law suit against healthcare provider relating to medical billing practices, successfully vacated district court order decertifying the class.
- *Schroeder v. Utah Att'y Generals Office*, Utah Supreme Court, 2015 UT 77. Successfully obtained release of government records under GRAMA on behalf of citizen activist.
- *Trebro Manufacturing v. Firefly Equipment*, United States Federal Circuit, No. 2013-1437. Defended maker of farm equipment on appeal relating to patent infringement claims.
- *Weber County v. Ogden Trece*, 2013 UT 62. Obtained reversal of gang injunction on behalf of third-party intervenor ACLU.

LaShel has also tried several cases before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board as well as the Utah State Tax Commission.