



✉ bjc@scmlaw.com

☎ 801.322.9122

PRACTICE AREAS

- Government Defens
- Land Use and Zoning
- Trials and Litigation
- Water and Natural Resources

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law, High Honors, 2023
- M.A., Northern Illinois University, Philosophy, 2016
- B.A., University of Portland, Philosophy, Political Science, Spanish, Maxima Cum Laude, 2012

ADMISSIONS

Utah State Bar

LANGUAGE

Spanish

ABOUT

Ben's budding legal practice involves land use, governmental entity defense, water law, and general civil litigation. Prior to joining SCM as an associate, he spent two summers as a clerk for the firm.

Ben received his J.D. from the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah, where he also received the Certificate in Environmental and Natural Resources Law and served on the Utah Law Review.

Before law school, Ben studied philosophy at Northern Illinois University and the University of Arizona and traveled widely, among other adventures outside of academia. When he's not in the office, Ben loves riding bikes, making a mess in the kitchen, and chasing his dog, Lupe, all over the Mountain West.

HONORS / AWARDS / UNIQUE RECOGNITION

- Research Fellow 2021-22, Prof. Robert Keiter, Wallace Stegner Center for Land, Resources and the Environment

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- Utah Center for Legal Inclusion – Fiduciary Board Member
- Utah Bar Association – Civility and Professionalism Committee
- Utah Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Construction of the Utah Federal Courthouse – Co-chair Building Committee
- Alpine Country Club – Board of Directors
- Committee for Defenders Services, Representative appointed by Chief Justice Rehnquist, 2003–2009

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Defending Utah’s former Attorney General. State of Utah v. Mark Shurtleff. Former Utah Attorney General Mark Shurtleff was arrested and charged with ten felonies — including receiving or soliciting bribes, accepting gifts, tampering with witnesses and evidence, and participating in a pattern of unlawful conduct. Shurtleff steadfastly asserts his innocence. In this highly publicized ongoing case, the firm succeeded in separating Shurtleff’s matter from that of his successor, John Swallow. In addition, the firm successfully fought subpoenas demanding that Shurtleff testify in the Marc Sessions Jensen communications fraud trial.

Defending bicycle manufacturer against trademark infringement lawsuit. Representing a global bicycle manufacturer and distributor sued in federal court for trademark infringement. Plaintiff is a Utah company that manufactures wheels, forks, seat posts, handlebars, and stems along with composite tubes for custom bicycle frame builders.

Defending global drug manufacturer in Utah. Representing a global healthcare manufacturer of prescription medications, vaccines, biologic therapies, and animal health products. One of the client’s painkillers was associated with an increased heart attack and stroke risk. The manufacturer stopped selling the drug and agreed to pay a settlement (which was not an admission of any liability or wrongdoing). The manufacturer retained Samuel and others in the firm for representation in Utah against related product liability lawsuits.

Defending a limited liability company in a civil RICO matter filed in the United States District Court for the Central District of California at Los Angeles.

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- Speaker, “Difference Between Being White and Non-White in the USA Today,” Project for Deeper Understanding – Public Forum, September 2016
- Speaker, “Benefit of Using Trial Prep Consulting Services for Significant Cases,” Utah State Bar Summer Convention, July 2016
- Speaker, “Attorney/Client Privilege in Discovery,” 9th Annual Federal Bar Association’s Criminal Law Seminar, 2015
- Speaker, “Ethical Issues in Criminal Representation,” Annual CJA/FPD Seminar, 2014
- Speaker, “The Changing Face of Law in Latin America,” Utah State University’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences Distinguished Alumni Speaker Series, 2010
- Samuel is a frequent presenter and author on several issues relating to federal evidence. He has conducted many presentations for the Tenth Circuit Judicial Conference Judges’ Meetings and the Utah State Bar on various topics, including civility and trial practice issues.