



Philip Nickerson

ASSOCIATE

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Overview

Philip is a commercial litigator with a particular focus on complex commercial disputes and government investigations. Philip enjoys helping his clients navigate litigation by leaning on his background in business and real estate, graduate research on securities laws and regulations, and time as a Judicial Law Clerk at the United States District Court for the District of Colorado. He has experience representing clients in financial, tech, real estate, and energy industries in matters involving trade secrets, government investigations, commercial contracts, construction and product defect, malpractice, and bankruptcy creditor rights. Prior to joining Scott Douglass & McConnico, Philip worked in the advocacy group of one of Colorado's oldest law firms representing clients in arbitrations, state courts in Texas and Colorado, and federal courts across the country.

Philip is an active leader and mentor in diversity, equity, and inclusion non-profits and committees in the legal and local community. His passion for furthering access to justice initiatives led him to help develop the Federal Limited Appearance Program (FLAP) serving pro se litigants in the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado. In 2022, Philip was named among the Most Influential and Up & Coming Lawyers by Austin Black Business Journal.

Experience

- Obtained a complete defense verdict on a multimillion-dollar commercial trade secrets lawsuit in federal court

- Obtained an order dismissing good faith and fair dealing claims for an international real estate brokerage client
- Obtained a \$1.6 million arbitration award in construction defect litigation
- Advised a global tech company in the development of a national personal-injury defense-strategy that has overcome every challenge in twenty-four jurisdictions and counting

Awards

- Best Lawyers®: Ones to Watch, Commercial Litigation, 2025
- Texas Super Lawyers® Rising Stars, Civil Litigation, 2024
- Named among Most Influential and Up & Coming Lawyers by Austin Black Business Journal, 2022

Articles & Presentations

- New to Federal Practice: What You Need to Know, Faculty of Federal Advocates, April 2021
- "Just Mercy" Panel -- Confronting Today's Justice System, ABA YLD Fall Conference, Oct. 2020
- Federal Practice Update, Colorado Bar Association CLE, June 2019
- "Behind the Bench" -- A Clerk's Panel, Faculty of Federal Advocates CLE, Feb. 2019

News & Insights

- Philip Nickerson joins SDM
- Philip Nickerson Among Most Influential Up and Coming Lawyers
- SDM Lawyers Recognized as 2024 Texas Rising Stars®
- SDM Defeats Class Certification in Helms-Burton Act Claims
- SDM Lawyers Recognized In Best Lawyers® 2025

Practice Areas

- Business Litigation & Torts
- Fiduciary Duty Litigation
- Oil & Gas Litigation
- Personal Injury & Products Liability
- Professional Malpractice, Licensing & Regulation

- Securities & Complex Financial Litigation
- White Collar Defense & Government Investigations Group

Education

- University of Denver Sturm College of Law, J.D. & M.B.A., 2017
 - Senior Staff Editor, Denver University Law Review
 - Managing & Production Editor, Denver Journal of International Law and Policy
 - Contributor, Race to the Bottom Securities Blog
 - Member, Jessup International Moot Court Team
 - Vice-President, Black Law Student Association
- Baylor University, B.A., 2012

Admissions

- State Bar of Texas
- State Bar of Colorado
- U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Districts of Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

Activities

- Austin Bar Association & Austin Young Lawyers' Association Leadership Academy, 2023
- Board Member and Mentor, Law School... "Yes We Can!"
- Board Member, University of Denver Alumni Council
- Board of Directors, Colorado Bar Association — Young Lawyers Division (2020-2021)
- YLD Chair & Judicial Endorsement Committee Member, Sam Cary Bar Association (2019-2021)