



## MATTHEW STANFORD

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## BIOGRAPHY

Matt is an associate in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution and Appellate & Supreme Court practice groups. His practice focuses primarily on appellate litigation, appellate consulting, and advanced motion practice. Matt is a skilled writer and strategist with a penchant for simplifying complex legal concepts into clear, concise arguments that keep the court focused on what's important to its eventual decision. In addition to his commercial practice, Matt maintains an active pro bono practice, including work on high-profile capital habeas matters.

Matt frequently contributes his thought leadership to various legal publications. He is a contributor to *SCOCABlog*, a joint project of the California Constitution Center at Berkeley Law—where he serves as a senior research fellow—and the *Hastings Law Journal*. Matt's work has also appeared on *Insider*, *The Recorder*, *Expert Forum*, and several top-tier law journals. His writings regularly cover

topics such as constitutional and statutory interpretation, federal jurisdiction, federalism, and separation of powers.

Before joining BCLP, Matt was an associate at an Arizona litigation boutique, where he gained a broad range of administrative, trial, and appellate experience, including coauthoring several appellate briefs and second chairing a bench trial that resulted in a favorable verdict for his client.

Before that, Matt spent the first few years of his career as a judicial law clerk at the federal and state levels. He clerked for Judge Susan R. Bolton of the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, Judge Michael Daly Hawkins of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and Chief Justice Robert M. Brutinel of the Arizona Supreme Court. Matt credits his time in public service for equipping him with a unique vantage point for appellate advocacy, as well as for engraining him with a civic-minded approach to the practice of law.

Matt focused his time as a law student on becoming an effective researcher, writer, and advocate. He served as an articles and essays editor for the *California Law Review*, as a judicial extern for William H. Orrick III of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, and as a research assistant both to then-Interim Dean Melissa Murray—one of the nation's foremost experts in the areas of constitutional law, family law, and reproductive rights and justice—and to Professor Andrew Bradt—a leading scholar of civil procedure, conflict of laws, and remedies. Matt also worked as a senior analyst for a nonprofit focused on state- and county-level correctional reform.

In his free time, Matt likes to spend time with his daughter, sing and play his guitar, watch Penn State football, and enjoy live music and stand-up comedy.

## CIVIC INVOLVEMENT & HONORS

- Senior Research Fellow, California Constitution Center at Berkeley Law (2017–2023)
- Next Generation Leader, American Constitution Society for Law & Policy
- Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America (2024)
- Super Lawyers: Rising Stars (2024)

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Board of Directors, Arizona Capital Representation Project (2022–present)
- Member, Board of Directors, American Constitution Society – Arizona Lawyer Chapter (2022–present)

## CLERKSHIPS

Clerkship, Honorable Robert M. Brutinel, Arizona Supreme Court, 2020-2021

Clerkship, Honorable Michael Daly Hawkins, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, 2019-2020

Clerkship, Honorable Susan R. Bolton, U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, 2017-2019

## ADMISSIONS

- Arizona, 2021
- California, 2018
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit, 2023
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit, 2023
- Supreme Court of the United States, 2023
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, 2021
- U.S. District Court, District of Arizona, 2021

## EDUCATION

- University of California-Berkeley, J.D., Order of the Coif, 2017
- Pennsylvania State University, B.A., with high distinction, 2012

## RELATED CAPABILITIES

- Business & Commercial Disputes
- Intellectual Property and Technology
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Regulation, Compliance & Advisory
- Class Actions & Mass Torts
- Appellate

## EXPERIENCE

- *Thornell v. Jones*, 602 U.S. \_\_\_\_ (2024): Coauthored merits brief and second-chaired argument in a capital habeas matter regarding the proper interpretation of the standard for assessing prejudice for ineffective assistance of counsel claims.
- *Satamian v. Great Divide Insurance Co., et al.*, 545 P.3d 918 (Ariz. 2024): Coauthored supplemental merits brief and obtained 7-0 decision affirming the dismissal of claims against defendants-appellees for negligent procurement of insurance and promissory estoppel.
- *Appvion, Inc. Retirement Savings & ESOP v. Buth, et al.*, 99 F.4th 928 (7th Cir. 2024): Coauthored brief defending the dismissal of claims for violations of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, securities fraud under § 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5, and other claims.
- *Commonwealth v. Zucchini*, 493 Mass. 747 (2024): Coauthored brief for *amicus curiae* urging affirmance of order denying suppression of blood alcohol content evidence in a prosecution for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol causing serious bodily injury or death (judgment affirmed 5-0).
- *Premier Consulting & Management Solutions, LLC v. Peace Releaf Center I*, 544 P.3d 658 (Ariz. App. 2024): Coauthored brief for defendants/appellees/cross-appellants in case challenging post-trial motion rulings in commercial contract dispute.
- *Burns v. Arizona Public Service Co.*, 254 Ariz. 24 (2022): Coauthored supplemental merits brief in case regarding the constitutional limits on the investigatory authority of an individual commissioner of the Arizona Corporation Commission.
- *Szeto v. Arizona Public Service Co.*, 253 Ariz. 466 (2022): Coauthored petition for review of a court of appeals ruling on the limitations on a public utility's liability for negligent maintenance of its power lines and obtained summary de-publication of the adverse portions of the court of appeals' opinion.

## RESOURCES

### PUBLICATIONS

- "The End of an Error: Could *Morgan v. Sundance* Mark a Turning Point in SCOTUS' Interpretation of the Federal Arbitration Act? *The Recorder*, May 26, 2022
- "Let Them Cheat: The Problems with Remote Bar Exam Software," *The Recorder*, December 9, 2021

- “Practical Piety: Divining Religion’s Role in Reproductive Policymaking,” *Boston University International Law Journal*, March 1, 2021
- “The Constitutional Challenges Awaiting Police Reform—and How Congress Can Try to Address Them Preemptively,” *California Law Review Online*, July 1, 2020
- “Uproot or Upgrade? Revisiting Section 230 Immunity in the Digital Age,” *University of Chicago Law Review Online*, June 23, 2020 (co-authored with Hon. Michael Daly Hawkins)
- “Remote Jury Trials Are Possible, But Maybe Not the Best Idea,” *The Recorder*, May 27, 2020 (co-authored with David A. Carrillo)
- “All of a Sudden, Everyone Loves the Tenth Amendment,” *The Recorder*, April 17, 2020 (co-authored with David A. Carrillo)
- “The pandemic exposes the need to fix the federalism debate,” *SCOCABlog*, April 17, 2020
- “Emergency diploma privileges are not the solution to coronavirus-caused bar exam delayed,” *SCOCABlog*, April 8, 2020
- “Judicial Resistance to Mandatory Arbitration as Federal Commandeering,” *Florida Law Review*, November 1, 2019 (co-authored with David A. Carrillo)
- “Administrative Injuries,” *Florida State University Law Review*, September 1, 2019
- “California SB 1300: What to Make of the Legislative Intent Provision,” *SCOCABlog*, January 8, 2019
- “Diminution Doctrine: Arbitration’s First Amendment Problem,” *UC Davis Law Review Online*, September 1, 2018
- “Supreme Court justices shouldn’t have term limits—they should have age requirements,” *Insider*, August 27, 2018
- “Odd Man Out: A Comparative Critique of the Federal Arbitration Act’s Article III Shortcomings,” *California Law Review*, June 1, 2017
- “Don’t Fear Trump. Fear the Presidency,” *Expert Forum*, February 13, 2017
- “Stop-and-Frisk Is Constitutional...But Should It Be?” *Expert Forum*, October 12, 2016
- “*Integrity Staffing Solutions, Inc. v. Busk*: How the Supreme Court Inadvertently Reformed the Fair Labor Standards Act,” *Berkeley Journal of Employment & Labor Law*, May 1, 2015

## RELATED INSIGHTS

Awards

Aug 17, 2023

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