

Katie A. Reilly

President

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Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell LLP



"Lawyer of the
Year" - Antitrust

Clients hire Katie Reilly for their most critical and urgent antitrust, class action, and commercial litigation injunctions, arbitrations, trials, and appeals.

Chambers USA ranks Katie in Band 1 for commercial litigation in Colorado and clients tell Chambers she is “extremely creative,” “relentless and always prepared,” and “an analytical fast-thinker” who “can really hone in and focus on what’s important in a case and digest extreme amounts of data and facts in a way that makes sense.” She “has an unbelievable strategic sense and judgment about how to shape and manage a case from the outset.” “Anything she touches,” they say, “gets better.”

For four straight years, BTI Consulting named Katie a nationwide Client Service All-Star MVP based exclusively on input from corporate counsel. And Katie is highly regarded by her peers. She was the only lawyer to receive more than two #1 lawyer awards from Law Week Colorado in 2026 – the legal community voted her the Best Commercial Litigation Lawyer, Best Antitrust Lawyer, and Best Civil Litigator.

Katie has successfully represented antitrust plaintiffs and defendants in matters involving monopolization, conspiracy, price fixing, exclusive dealing, and other competition-related disputes, including trade secrets and non-compete actions. She has successfully protected clients’ interests in numerous high-stakes, urgent disputes, including representing clients in more than 20 hearings for emergency injunctive relief. She has extensive knowledge of the regulatory hurdles and obligations her clients face, and she develops effective litigation and trial strategies based on her clients’ business priorities.

Katie’s additional commercial litigation experience includes successfully representing clients in business disputes at both the trial and appellate levels. Her experience includes contract disputes, business divorces, consumer fraud, and business tort claims. She has extensive healthcare industry experience, as well as real estate, energy, aviation, manufacturing, sports, and telecommunications. Katie also represents municipalities in high-stakes and often contentious disputes involving other municipal entities.

“A formidable litigator” and “a very creative and solution-oriented attorney.”

– Peer and client comments, respectively, to Chambers USA

Credentials

Education

New York University School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2001

University of Virginia, B.A., with distinction, 1998; Classics and English

CLERKSHIPS

Judicial Law Clerk to The Honorable Julia S. Gibbons, U.S. District Court, Western District of Tennessee, and U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit, 2001-2002

RECOGNITION

Chambers USA

Band 1, General Commercial Litigation - Colorado, 2026

Band 2, General Commercial Litigation - Colorado, 2021-2025

Band 3, General Commercial Litigation - Colorado, 2020

Band 4, General Commercial Litigation - Colorado, 2018-2019

Up and Coming, General Commercial
Litigation - Colorado, 2016-2017

BTI Consulting

Client Service All-Star MVP, 2020-2023

Client Service All-Star, 2019

The Best Lawyers in America

Litigation - Antitrust Lawyer of the Year, Denver, 2021, 2023, 2025

Bet-the-Company Litigation, 2024-2027

Commercial Litigation, 2018-2027

Antitrust Litigation, 2018-2027

Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions - Defendants, 2022-2027

Benchmark Litigation

Top 250 Women in Litigation, 2025-2027

Litigation Star, 2025-2026

Under 40 Hot List, 2016-2017

Future Star, 2021-2024

Lawdragon Leading Litigators in America

2026

The Legal 500 Denver

Litigation - Commercial Disputes, 2026

5280 Magazine

Top Lawyers

Antitrust, 2020-2021, 2023-2026

Civil Litigation, 2021, 2023-2024

Law Week Colorado

Top Women Lawyers, 2016

"People's Choice" Antitrust Lawyer, 2016-2018, 2020, 2023

"Barrister's Best" Antitrust Lawyer, 2019

Denver Business Journal

"Forty Under 40," 2012

Colorado Super Lawyers

Antitrust Litigation, 2017-2026

Top 100, 2018-2026

Top 50 Women, 2018-2026

Colorado Rising Stars - Business Litigation, 2009-2016

ColoradoBiz

Business Litigation Power List, 2026

LEGAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System

Chair, Law Firm Council, 2020

Board of Advisors, 2020

Law School. . . Yes We Can

Building Futures Fundraiser Co-Chair, 2021

Colorado Lawyers Committee

Board of Directors, 2008-2014

Sixth Amendment Task Force

Colorado Judicial Institute

Board Member

Colorado Women's Bar Association Foundation

Board of Directors, 2014-present

Colorado Women's Bar Association

Faculty of Federal Advocates
Counsel/Co-counsel Program

University of Colorado Law School
Dean's Advisory Council, 2013-present

Law360
2024 Editorial Advisory Board for Colorado

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Colorado
District of Columbia
U.S. Court of Appeals, 10th Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Denver Kids Inc.
Board Chair, September 2017-2018
Board of Directors, 2010-2019
Executive Committee, 2012-2019
Mentor, 2006-2014

Clayton Early Learning
Board of Directors 2024-2025

The Women's Leadership Foundation, Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce
Charter Member, Board Bound Program

Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce
Leadership Denver Program, Class of 2011

Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation
Impact Denver Program, Class of 2007

La Conexión
Board of Directors, 2006-2007

Practices

Antitrust

[Appellate](#)
[Class Actions](#)
[Commercial Litigation](#)
[Investigations](#)
[Securities](#)

Cases

HIGHLIGHTS

Representing the Southeastern Conference in certified and putative class actions across the country against the NCAA and its five major athletic conferences regarding student-athlete benefits.

Representing multiple healthcare systems in opt-out antitrust claims against Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and the individual Blues entities, challenging anticompetitive agreements that have wrongfully deprived the providers of competitive reimbursement for their services.

As lead trial counsel for a natural gas company, settled a \$2 billion putative antitrust class action alleging wholesale price manipulation for a small fraction of the demand after persuading the Seventh Circuit to vacate class certification.

Won a \$39 million plaintiff's jury verdict as co-trial counsel for Allergan and Duke University after a five-day patent infringement trial in federal court in Colorado.

Successfully represented one of the nation's largest grocery and foodservice distributors as a direct action plaintiff in antitrust litigation concerning broiler chickens.

Obtained a \$45 million settlement for a leading healthcare company from the federal government in a tax refund dispute based on a draft complaint and prelitigation mediation.

Won a preliminary injunction for a national fitness franchisor against three competing fitness and nutrition studios that had stolen our client's trade secrets, infringed on its trademarks, committed fraud, and breached non-compete obligations.

Obtained a favorable a settlement for a publicly traded apartment REIT facing antitrust claims as part of a multidistrict litigation that spans 40 states based on the alleged use of pricing algorithms in setting residential rental rates.

CLASS ACTIONS

Won a Montana Supreme Court victory for a health system in a putative consumer class action that challenged its policy of issuing refunds in the form of pre-paid debit cards. The victory affirmed our prior summary judgment win and defeated the plaintiff's new claims on appeal.

Successfully represented multiple defendants in a \$2 billion federal antitrust and labor class action challenging the au pair exchange program administered by the Department of State. After four years of litigation, and just two months before trial, we helped to negotiate settlement for the defense group, resulting in defendants paying only 3% of the demand.

Successfully represented a major North American resort owner and operator in multiple consumer class actions seeking refunds following the company's closure of its ski resorts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Successfully defended and achieved favorable settlement for a telecommunications company in federal and state putative class actions arising out of an alleged data breach.

Won voluntary dismissal of putative class action claims for one of the nation's largest health and wellness franchisors regarding the company's refund policies.

ANTITRUST & COMPETITION

Representing a leading ski resort company in two putative antitrust class actions alleging antitrust violations in connection with the pricing of ski passes.

Successfully negotiated a class settlement—for 2.5% of the claimed damages—for a major utility provider and its subsidiary in a 15-year-old putative antitrust class action in Colorado federal court.

Won reversal of a TRO that had been issued *ex parte* at the close of business on a Friday, effectively shutting down operations for a major manufacturing and distribution client, and subsequently won rejection of the injunction against our client.

Won summary judgment from trial court and successfully defended that order before the Tenth Circuit in a federal antitrust lawsuit alleging conspiracy to monopolize fixed-base operations at an airport.

Successfully defended a leading technology distributor against claims of civil conspiracy and trade secret misappropriation brought by former competitors, who sought tens of millions of dollars in damages. Following full discovery and a Daubert hearing, plaintiffs dismissed all claims on the eve of trial without any settlement or payment from our client.

Lead counsel for major real estate investment company in *In Re: Apartment Rental Software Antitrust Litigation* (M.D. Tenn. 2023). Plaintiffs seek billions of dollars in damages.

Successfully represented a healthcare trade association in an \$80 million federal antitrust lawsuit alleging conspiracy among the trade association, health systems, and health insurance companies.

On the eve of trial, obtained a settlement for a leading nationwide insurer facing a novel antitrust challenge to its method of handling property damage claims.

Obtained a favorable settlement for a nation-leading cable operator in a high-stakes and high-profile antitrust dispute brought by a regional content provider.

Represented a divestiture buyer in a three-week trial defending against Colorado antitrust regulators' effort to block supermarket merger.

Won motions to dismiss all antitrust claims against our client, a leading technology distributor, in multiple related antitrust conspiracy lawsuits brought by former distributors.

Successfully defended a government contractor in a federal antitrust class action and obtained early dismissal of tying and monopolization claims asserted by franchisee plaintiffs.

Successfully defended a health system against antitrust claims and state law claims in multiple lawsuits brought by physicians relating to failed joint ventures.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Recovered \$50 million for a global technology and telecommunications company from another telecom provider in a contract dispute over service fees.

Representing an industry-leading calf-buying and cattle-feeding company in a nine-figure contract dispute with a dairy magnate and several of his dairies.

Secured a business resolution allowing our global technology and telecommunications company client to recover its entire \$50 million claim in an indemnification dispute with a contractor stemming from a wildfire.

Won a complete victory following a four-day arbitration for the nation's leading beauty and wellness franchisor, which was accused of fraud, franchise disclosure violations, violations of unfair competition laws, and breach of contract. Successfully countersued for breach of contract and trade secret misappropriation, obtained preliminary and permanent injunctions, recovered liquidated damages, and secured an award of attorneys' fees and costs.

Represented a leading ride-sharing technology company in a federal lawsuit seeking to enjoin Colorado legislation for violation of our client's First Amendment rights.

Won summary judgment in a high-stakes commercial dispute between technology companies. Represented 10 of 12 defendants and served as lead counsel for the joint defense. At issue were questions of legality and fraud related to asset management and an outstanding loan owed by a business entity that had dissolved. We demonstrated that our clients had been fair and above-board, and that no fraud existed.

Obtained dismissal for an insurance company client facing a civil RICO lawsuit in federal court, with risk of treble damages, for issuing a surety bond to a marijuana business as required by state regulations. The judge granted our client's motion to dismiss because the plaintiffs failed to plausibly allege injury sufficient to establish RICO standing.

Successfully defended the Colorado arm of the second-largest home building company in the U.S., together with executives and employees, against alleged violations of the Colorado Securities Act, among other claims, arising out of a metropolitan district development. Obtained dismissal of all claims against nine out of 10 defendants, paving the way for a favorable settlement.

Helped secure a \$142 million settlement as liaison counsel to the lead plaintiff in a securities class action against a pharmaceutical company.

Successfully represented a global industrial gas company in defense of a competitor's application for preliminary and mandatory injunctive relief, ultimately facilitating resolution of a dispute valued in the hundreds of millions of dollars on highly favorable terms.

Won a complete verdict in a bench trial in federal bankruptcy court involving claims of fraud alleged in a business divorce.

Successfully represented a Fortune 100 telecommunications company in an appeal in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit involving the application of Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations.

Represented the founders of a major ski resort in a two-week jury trial against a leading mountain resort company in a breach of contract action.

Represented one of the nation's largest healthcare franchisors in a federal court action challenging the legality of the underlying business model.

Successfully represented a Colorado-based healthcare system in breach of contract action involving provision of home healthcare services.

Represented a health system and obtained favorable settlement in a breach of contract action based on the termination of a management services contract for a Colorado hospital's oncology department.

Obtained dismissal of a putative Securities Act class action for a global telecommunications company and, after a partial reversal and remand, again obtained dismissal of amended claims.

Served as lead counsel in series of lawsuits concerning contract disputes between nation-leading telecom companies with over \$1 billion at issue. Achieved a highly favorable settlement.

Won a \$16.3 million arbitration award for a multistate cannabis operator in a Florida franchise dispute involving lost royalties and right-of-first-refusal issues.

Successfully represented Aimco, a publicly-traded apartment REIT, in nationwide litigation alleging business torts against Airbnb. After jury selection in the first trial, Airbnb settled all litigation on terms allowing Aimco to control short-term rental activity consistent with its contract and property rights.

Won summary judgment in arbitration for a nation-leading telecom provider in an indemnification dispute with a former subcontractor whose employee filed a class action lawsuit in the Southern District of New York. Though the plaintiff was one class member among thousands, we demonstrated that the subcontractor was liable to indemnify our client for all of its attorneys' fees related to the class action and a pro rata share of the resulting settlement.

Won a Tenth Circuit appeal for a leading U.S. railroad operator defending a district court order that dismissed a third-party intervenor's claims against our client based on lack of standing to enforce an EPA consent decree.

Successfully represented an aerospace supplier in a product liability action involving responsibility for a \$10 million cleanup effort at a rocket manufacturing facility.

Successfully defended a Fortune 50 telecommunications conglomerate against allegations brought by a competitor that our client had breached FCC phone number portability regulations.

Successfully represented a leading regional healthcare network as lead trial counsel in a high-stakes trademark dispute against a national healthcare insurance provider.

Won summary judgment for a major ski resort as a plaintiff in a contract dispute involving a wireless infrastructure contractor.

Won dismissal from the trial court for publisher Simon & Schuster in a case involving a movie studio's \$50 million damages claim relating to the movie Sahara and alleging false representation of popular novelist Clive Cussler's readership figures.

Obtained a favorable plaintiffs' verdict and monetary damages in a one-week jury trial based on an extreme and outrageous conduct claim.

Defended a manufacturing company against a multimillion-dollar breach of warranty claim involving allegedly defective parts and negotiated a favorable settlement of less than 10 percent of the damages claimed.

MUNICIPAL

Obtained complete dismissal with prejudice for two real estate investment clients facing claims brought by a municipal district seeking hundreds of millions of dollars in damages. The plaintiff alleged violations of the Colorado Organized Crimes Control Act, breaches of fiduciary duties, aiding and abetting such breaches, civil conspiracy, and more.

Represented the City of Aurora in a Rule 106 action against the City of Greenwood Village involving an intergovernmental agreement between the cities under which Greenwood Village transferred development authority of a real estate parcel to Aurora.

Represented Denver International Airport in high profile claims involving alleged bid rigging and unfair competition relating to a \$50 million terminal concessions contract.

Represented Denver International Airport against the Regional Transportation District in a dispute over cost-sharing agreements involving a new rail line serving the airport.

Represent citizens in a lawsuit against a municipality alleging a violation of the Colorado Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR).

REAL ESTATE

Won reversal of summary judgment against our client, a real estate developer, in a dispute over a reciprocal easement, the outcome of which had a multimillion-dollar effect on the value of the property. The case was remanded to district court with orders to hear evidence at trial.

Obtained injunctive relief for a shopping center owner and developer requiring an adjacent property owner to renovate the shopping center common area according to the terms of a reciprocal easement agreement.

Represented a major railroad company in connection with numerous right of way disputes, including quiet title and condemnation actions.

Represented a real estate developer and obtained a \$4.8 million judgment against the title insurance company after a seven-day bench trial in a bad faith breach of title insurance action.

Represented a property owner in the appeal of a quiet title action before the Colorado Court of Appeals.
