

Richard P. Colbert

Partner

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Overview

Richard "Rich" Colbert is a trial and appellate attorney representing individuals and business entities in complex and general business litigation matters, principally within the Connecticut state courts. He has handled a wide variety of complex and high-stakes matters, including:

- Multimillion-dollar commercial lending and finance disputes
- Defense of sexual abuse claims against religious, charitable and educational organizations
- Employer-employee fiduciary duty matters
- Commercial property tax appeals
- Construction malpractice claims
- Commercial real estate disputes
- Substantial personal injury claims

Rich has tried cases before Connecticut state court judges and juries, participated in scores of successful mediations and arbitrations, and handled appeals to the Connecticut Appellate and Supreme Courts. Clients know and value Rich's ability to manage and conduct large, complex trials, behind the scenes and in the courtroom. As a result of his extensive and unique state court knowledge, Rich also regularly serves as local counsel for international law firms involved in matters pending in Connecticut state courts. Rich served as the chair of the firm's Hiring Committee from 2002 through 2004, and as chair of the firm's Trial Training Committee in 2005 and 2006. Rich served as law clerk for the Connecticut Judicial Department Superior Court Division in 1990-1991.

Firm Leadership:

- Office Managing Partner, New Haven, CT

Practices & Industries

Fiduciary and Probate Litigation

Litigation

Product Liability & Torts Litigation

Real Estate Litigation

Experience

No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the highest court of any state. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

Represented Fortune 500 international postage and document technology company in alleged breach of contract action involving a $50 million bid for a government contract with the United States Military Academy

Represented international lumber and mill wood products company in an alleged breach of investment and lending agreement action involving damages claims in excess of $24 million

Represented former corporate officer in connection with mismanagement and fraud claims brought by investors against a $400 million hedge fund

Represented Connecticut attorney in a landmark case involving a contingency fee dispute with a successor attorney; obtained substantial jury verdict and thereafter, prevailed on appeal to the Connecticut Supreme Court in case of first impression

Represented Fortune 500 global management consulting firm in a multimillion-dollar usurpation of corporate opportunity and breach of fiduciary duty action

Education and Credentials

Education

Vermont Law School, J.D., 1990

Western Connecticut State University, B.S., 1987

Admissions

State of Connecticut

U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut

Affiliations

Fairfield County Bar Association, Board of Directors

American Bar Association

Connecticut Bar Association

Connecticut Defense Lawyers Association

Recognition and Community

No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the highest court of any state. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome. See Awards Methodology.

Recognitions

Chosen for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* (Woodward/White, Inc.) for Appellate Practice, 2025-2027, Litigation – Trusts and Estates, 2026-2027

Selected to the list of Connecticut *Super Lawyers*®, Business Litigation, 2007–2026

Selected to the *Super Lawyer*®, Corporate Counsel, list, 2010

United Way of Western Connecticut's Volunteer Award, 2013

Community Involvement

The Volunteer Center of United Way of Western Connecticut, Board of Directors, 2012-present

Lawyers for Children America, Regional Director

The Volunteer Center of Southwestern Fairfield County, Chairman of Board, 2010-2012

Insights

COVID-19 and Contracts: Potential Impacts of the Pandemic on Private Agreements?
March 23, 2020

Day Pitney Prepared to Assist Clients in Requesting Designation as "Essential" Business under New York's COVID-19 "Work from Home" Executive Order
March 22, 2020

Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development Issues Guidance For Determining Which Businesses Are "Essential" under Connecticut's COVID-19 "Work from Home" Executive Order
March 22, 2020

Day Pitney Prepares to Assist Clients in Requesting Designation as "Essential" Business under Connecticut's COVID-19 "Work from Home" Executive Order
March 21, 2020

Connecticut Governor Suspends Statutes of Limitation and Time Requirements for Certain Court Actions Due to COVID-19 Emergency
March 20, 2020

Probate Litigation Update
august, 2016

Trust & Estate Litigation Update
October 7, 2015

News

87 Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2016 Super Lawyers List
November 10, 2016

91 Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2015 Super Lawyers List
October 30, 2015

Eighty-Four Day Pitney Attorneys Recognized by Super Lawyers for 2014
November 3, 2014

Eighty-eight Day Pitney Attorneys Recognized by *Super Lawyers* for 2013
October 22, 2013

Ninety-eight Day Pitney Attorneys Recognized by *Super Lawyers*
October 22, 2012