



## Cecil E. Morris Jr.

### Director

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For 35 years, Cecil has represented clients in complex commercial disputes in federal and State courts relating to closely held entities, fiduciary relationships, business torts, securities, real estate, and banking. Cecil also has extensive experience with arbitration, and he regularly serves as both an advocate on behalf of his clients and as an arbitrator. Regardless of venue, Cecil's clients rely on him to help resolve their matters efficiently and effectively.

Cecil represents businesses, shareholders, partners, and members of LLC's in disputes involving the governance and control of closely-held companies; the fiduciary duties of directors, officers, managers, shareholders, partners, and members; derivative claims; trade secrets; non-competition agreements; and breach of contract issues. Cecil's securities cases have involved private placements, investment advisors, and broker-dealer disputes. Cecil's real estate cases have involved options to purchase, purchase agreements, subdivision developments, land use, and construction disputes.

In addition to his commercial litigation practice, Cecil represents lawyers and law firms in legal ethics matters, attorney discipline cases, and admission to practice. Cecil's high level of integrity makes him a sought after resource for issues related to attorney discipline investigations, public disciplinary cases, motions for disqualification, and sanctions. He is a member of the Colorado Supreme Court Standing Committee on the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct, former Chair of the U.S. District Court Committee on Conduct, and a member and former Chair of the Ethics Committee to the Colorado Bar Association.

### Education

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New York University School of Law, J.D., 1982

- Review of Law and Social Change, Articles Editor
- Root-Tilden-Snow Scholarship

University of Oklahoma, B.A., Political Science, *summa cum laude*, 1979

- Phi Beta Kappa
- Bronze Letzeiser Medal, Outstanding Senior
- Pe-Et, Top Ten Seniors
- Cortez A.M. Ewing Public Service Fellowship

## Bar Admissions

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Colorado

U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. Supreme Court

## Practice Areas

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Business and Commercial Litigation

Litigation

Real Estate Litigation

Securities Litigation, Arbitration, and Regulatory Defense

## Sectors

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Law Firms and Lawyers

## Professional Affiliations

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- American Arbitration Association
  - National Panel of Arbitrators, Commercial Arbitration
- American Bar Association
  - Litigation Section and Committees on Trial Practice, Securities Litigation and Business Torts Litigation
- Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers
- Colorado Bar Association
  - CBA Ethics Committee
    - Chair, 2004 - 2005
    - Vice Chair, 2003 – 2004
- Colorado Bar Foundation
- Colorado Supreme Court Ad Hoc Committee on ABA Ethics 2000/Rules of Professional Conduct
- Colorado Supreme Court Standing Committee on the Rules of Professional Conduct, 2003 – present
- Colorado Supreme Court Attorney Regulation Advisory Committee, Subcommittee on Proactive Based Management, 2015 - 2017
- Colorado Trial Lawyers Association
  - Board of Directors

- Trial Talk, editor
- Denver Bar Association
- Faculty of Federal Advocates, United States District Court for the District of Colorado, founding member
- Historical Society of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, founding lifetime member
- Sports Car Club of America - Colorado Region
  - Board of Directors, 2020
- U. S. District Court, District of Colorado,
  - Conduct Committee, 2005 - 2011
  - Conduct Committee Chair, 2010 - 2011

## Recognition

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- Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent rated
- Colorado Super Lawyers ?????
  - Business Litigation
- The Best Lawyers in America, 2022 - 2025
  - Ethics and Professional Responsibility Law

## Presentations

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- "Legal Ethics: Competence, Confidentiality, and Cybersecurity", Colorado Bar Association Business Law Section (2018)
- "Annual Developments in Ethics for In-House Counsel", Fairfield and Woods, P.C. (2015-2018)
- "Legal Ethics: Recent Developments, Trends, and Recurring Issues", Colorado Bar Association Business Law Section (2017)
- "Everyday Legal Ethics", Colorado Bar Association Health Law Section (2017)
- "Serious Misconduct Within the Organization Client -- Legal Ethics, Sarbanes-Oxley and the Yates Memorandum", Colorado Bar Association Business Law Section (2016)
- "Inadvertent Disclosure: Professional Liability Series", Colorado Bar Association CLE (2016)
- "Ethics and the Business Lawyer: Back to the Future", Colorado Business Law Institute, Colorado Bar Association, CLE (2015)