



RORY D. COSGROVE

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Rory Cosgrove focuses his practice on appellate litigation in state and federal courts. Rory has extensive experience drafting briefs, motions, and memoranda and researching myriad legal areas, including medical/legal malpractice, employment discrimination, personal injury, products liability, and commercial law. Rory's passion and enthusiasm for appeals shapes his trial practice.

You can follow Rory on Twitter as he tweets about recent appellate decisions and other appellate issues.

Before joining the firm, Rory clerked for the Honorable James Verellen at the Washington State Court of Appeals, Division One, for two years. He analyzed more than 60 appeals from bench memorandum to judicial opinion. His clerkship gave him valuable insight into the judicial decision-making process. Rory uses that insight to offer a unique perspective to clients. Rory regularly writes on appellate issues in his appellate law blog. You can subscribe to his blog posts for future updates.

While in law school, Rory was an extern for the Oregon Court of Appeals in the Appellate Commissioner's Office. Before law school, Rory taught English in France for two years.

Rory impacts his local community with his commitment to pro bono service. He regularly volunteers for the Housing Justice Project in King County. Outside of the office, Rory enjoys voyages abroad (especially to France) and spending time with friends and family. Rory channels his love for basketball through his annual participation in the Spokane HoopFest basketball tournament. And when the weather permits, Rory will be found on the links working on his short game.

Education

J.D., Willamette University
College of Law,
summa cum laude, 2014

- Managing Editor, Willamette Law Review 3
- Certificate in International and Comparative Law
- Research, Writing, and Editing Assistant to Dean Emeritus Symeon Symeonides
- Legal Writing Assistant to Professor Helen Mazur-Hart

B.A., Eastern Washington University, magna cum laude, 2008

- Majors: International Affairs and French
- Vice President, Sigma Phi Epsilon
- Study Abroad, Université Stendhal III, Grenoble, France

Bar and Court Admissions

State of Washington
U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

Professional Associations

Washington State Bar Association
American Bar Association
King County Bar Association, Appellate Law Section:
Executive Committee
Honorary Member
Washington Defense Trial Lawyers: Amicus Committee
Defense Research Institute: Appellate Advocacy Section

Languages

French

Honors and Recognitions

- Roy Lockenour Award for Professional Responsibility
- 2008 Yarwood Award, Top Dean's Honor Student for Modern

Publications

- "Effect of Digital Technology on Reading and Writing Appellate Briefs," *For the Defense, DRI*, February 2018
- Co-author, "Expansion of Judicial Review of Arbitration Awards," *Appellate Practice*, March 13, 2017

Presentations

- "Appeals: 1920-2018," NALS Annual Conference, April 2018
- "Nuts and Bolts of State and Federal Court Appellate Practice," National Association of Legal Secretaries: Greater Seattle Chapter, February 2018
- "Developing a Pro Bono Appellate Practice," King County Bar Association Appellate Section, December 2017

Representative Pro Bono Cases

- Negotiated structured settlement agreement on behalf of residential tenant facing eviction to keep the tenant in her home an extra month and to avoid enforcement of a writ of restitution.
- Rory is currently serving as court-appointed pro bono counsel in a civil appeal before the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.
- Represented a client facing eviction and successfully negotiated with opposing counsel to keep the client in his home an extra 120 days.
- Represented client facing eviction and \$12,000 in allegedly owed rent, and obtained an order dismissing the unlawful detainer action including an order of limited dissemination.
- Successfully obtained a show cause hearing for a client facing eviction in an unlawful detainer action.
- Represented residential tenant in a post-eviction hearing and successfully obtained an order reinstating client's term tenancy and an order limiting dissemination of the unlawful detainer action.
- Represented residential tenant facing eviction and successfully negotiated with opposing counsel to keep client in her home for an extra month and saved client over \$3,000.

Representative Appellate Cases

- Drafted an amicus brief on behalf of the Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Association on specific personal jurisdiction to support a petition for review to the Washington Supreme Court (Aug. 2017).
- Successfully persuaded the Washington Supreme Court to deny our opponent's petition for review and to award our clients reasonable attorney's fees and expenses (Oct. 2017).
- *Noll v. Special Electric*, 188 Wn.2d 492, 395 P.3d 1021 (2017) (specific personal jurisdiction) (reversed and remanded)
- Drafted an amicus curiae brief on behalf of a national insurance association in the Washington Supreme Court (August 2016)

Representative Trial Cases

- Successfully obtained a dismissal on the merits for lack of specific personal jurisdiction following the Washington Supreme Court's remand in *Noll v. Special Electric Co., Inc.*, 188 Wn.2d 402, 395 P.3d 1021 (2017).
- Successfully obtained a summary-judgment dismissal of a counterclaim striking down a unilateral attorney's fees provision in a homeowners' association's declaration of covenants, conditions, and restrictions.
- Successfully obtained a CR 12(c) dismissal in King County Superior Court in a complex commercial dispute.

Community Activities

- Volunteer Attorney, King County Housing Justice Project
- Volunteer Attorney, King County Neighborhood Legal Clinic