COSGRAVE
VERGEER KESTER



Julie A. Smith

Partner

P 503.219.3821
E jsmith@cosgravelaw.com

Ashley M. Long

Legal Assistant

P 503.276.6087
E along@cosgravelaw.com
F 503.323.9019

Law Practice

Julie Smith's practice focuses on civil appeals. She has handled hundreds of appeals before the Oregon Court of Appeals, the Oregon Supreme Court, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and is also admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court.

As part of her appellate practice, Julie also partners with trial counsel to develop pre-trial, trial, and post-trial strategies, present legal arguments, and help ensure cases are well-positioned for appeal.

Before joining Cosgrave, Julie served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Trial and Appellate Divisions of the Oregon Department of Justice, where she twice received the department's Outstanding Achievement Award. She previously clerked for the Honorable Virginia Linder of the Oregon Court of Appeals.

INDUSTRIES

Construction

Financial Services

Healthcare

Manufacturing

Professional Services

Railroad

Real Estate

Trucking and Motor Carrier

Appellate & Litigation Services

- Handles and consults on all aspects of civil appeals in Oregon state and federal courts
- Collaborates with trial teams to develop legal theories and strategies for all stages of litigation
- Prepares and presents written and oral arguments in all stages of litigation

PRACTICE AREAS

Appellate & Litigation Support

Professional Liability

- Partners with trial counsel to ensure issues are preserved for appeal
- Serves as retained monitoring appellate counsel for trial

Education & Bar Admissions

Julie earned her bachelor's degree in political, legal, and economic analysis from Mills College and a law degree from the University of Oregon, where she graduated Order of the Coif. While attending law school, she was an Executive Editor of the *Oregon Law Review*.

Julie became a member of the Oregon State Bar in 1998. She is also admitted to practice before the United States District Court for the District of Oregon, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court.

Professional

Julie's professional memberships include the Multnomah Bar Association, the Oregon Association of Defense Counsel (OADC), and Oregon Women Lawyers. She serves on the Oregon Rules of Appellate Procedure Committee and is a regular contributor to OADC's quarterly publication, *The Verdict*.

She previously served on the Executive Committee of the Oregon State Bar Appellate Practice Section and the Uniform Civil Jury Instructions Committee.

Publications

Oregon Civil Pleading and Litigation (2020 ed.)
Chapter 41 – Appealability of Judgments and Orders, Oregon State Bar Publications, December 2020

Damages (2016 ed.)
Chapter 2 – Nominal Damages, Oregon State Bar Publications, November, 2016

Presentations

Appellate Update
Speaker – Oregon Association of Defense Counsel Annual Convention, 2026

Anti-SLAPP: The Law You Didn't Know That You Need To Know
Speaker – Oregon Association of Defense Counsel Webinar, 2025

Post-Trial Motions and Appellate Practice
Speaker – Oregon Association of Defense Counsel Annual Convention, 2024

Appeals – What New Practitioners Should Know
Speaker – Oregon State Bar Fundamentals of Oregon Civil Trial Procedure Seminar, 2023

The Remedy Clause Post-Busch – Where Do We Go From Here?
Speaker – Oregon Association of Defense Counsel Webinar, 2020

Awards

Julie A. Smith was named the Best Lawyers® 2026 Appellate Practice "Lawyer of the Year" in Portland, OR.

The Best Lawyers in America®, Appellate Practice (2021–2027); Railroad Law (2025–2027)

Oregon Rising Stars, *Super Lawyers*, Civil Litigation (2008–2012)

Client Comments

"I just read the brief, and I must say, it's extraordinarily compelling. You nailed it!"

*"Amazing job with this brief. I'm blown away. * * * Incredibly thorough, readability is next level."*

"I cannot thank you enough for the amazing work you did on my case. Your pretrial arguments and work on the directed verdict were integral to [trial counsel's] success."

"I know that you have received this great news already from Julie Smith. Congratulations on the terrific result! Julie did a superb job on the briefing and it is reflected clearly in the exemplary, thoughtful opinion that [the judge] wrote."

"My feedback echos [the trial attorney's], and the word that came to my mind after reading [your briefing] was 'brilliant'!"

"Julie, thank you very much. I think [the motion] is extremely well done."