

Shepard D. O'Connell

Associate



CONTACT INFO

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OFFICE

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Shepard O'Connell focuses her practice on commercial litigation and international arbitration. A fluent Spanish speaker, Shepard draws on her experience litigating international disputes to serve corporate and individual clients from diverse backgrounds, providing counsel on business, intellectual property, and regulatory issues.

MY PRACTICE

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

Shepard O'Connell represents individuals and corporate clients involved in cross-border disputes. She has experience representing investors and sovereign states in international commercial arbitration proceedings as well as investment treaty disputes. She advises clients from a broad range of industries, including utilities, renewable energy, construction and development, and banking and financial services. Shepard is fluent in Spanish.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

PRACTICE AREAS

Compliance & Internal Investigations
Intellectual Property
International & Cross Border
Latin America
White Collar Defense and
Investigations

INDUSTRIES

Banking, Investment & Financial
Services
Construction & Development
Health Care
Insurance
Utilities

EDUCATION

University of California at Berkeley
School of Law
J.D., 2014
University of Chile
M.A., 2011, with distinction
University of North Carolina at Chapel
Hill
B.A., 2008, with highest honors;
Morehead-Cain Scholar; Phi Beta
Kappa

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

California
District of Columbia
North Carolina
US District Court - North Carolina
Middle District
Eastern District

Shepard represents companies of all sizes in federal and state court. Her experience includes cases involving contract disputes, shareholder disputes, unfair business practices, misappropriation of trade secrets, and trademark infringement. Shepard also has experience litigating various tort claims arising under state common law, including claims for breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract, and fraud. The following are representative of the types of matters Shepard has handled:

The defense of a closely-held corporation in a shareholder dispute involving claims of breach of fiduciary duty and minority shareholder oppression.

The representation of a renewable energy developer involving claims of misappropriation of trade secrets and breach of contract.

The defense of an insurance company against class action claims for unfair trade practices and false advertising.

The representation of a private developer in a regulatory and permitting matter.

The representation of a manufacturer in the automotive industry in a trademark infringement dispute.

The defense of a multimillion-dollar trust against claims of fraud and undue influence.

WHITE COLLAR DEFENSE AND INVESTIGATIONS

Shepard represents individuals and companies who are under criminal or regulatory scrutiny concerning their business practices. She assists companies involved in sensitive internal investigations involving issues raised by federal and state regulators and internal whistleblowers.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Member, [North Carolina Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#)

Regional Selection Committee Member, [Morehead-Cain Foundation](#)

Teaching Assistant (Litigation Practice in International Arbitration), Georgetown University Law Center, Fall 2015

PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA

"Enforcing Arbitration Awards in North Carolina," *Practical Law*, 2016 (co-written by Arty Bolick)

Brooks Pierce Grows International Practice with Addition of Three Attorneys, September 23, 2016