

# Julia C. Ambrose

Partner



#### CONTACT INFO

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#### OFFICE

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Julia Ambrose provides transactional and regulatory counsel to media companies navigating the rapidly-changing video programming industry. She is also an experienced litigator, well-versed in commercial and constitutional litigation in all levels of state and federal trial and appellate courts.

## MY PRACTICE

### BROADCAST TELEVISION REGULATION AND LITIGATION

Technology is evolving rapidly, but the laws and regulations governing broadcast television have not always kept pace. Julia has significant experience helping media companies and broadcast trade associations lay the groundwork for this new era of video programming consumption. She drafts and negotiates a host of agreements between broadcasters and content providers, such as streaming agreements, affiliation agreements, digital broadcasting agreements, and syndication agreements.

Julia has also represented media clients in the notice-and-comment process before the Federal Communications Commission as it creates new rules for television broadcasters, and she regularly provides written advocacy on hot-button issues

#### PRACTICE AREAS

Administrative and Regulatory  
Education  
Litigation  
    › Appellate  
    › Federal Litigation  
Media and Publishing  
White Collar Defense and  
Investigations

#### INDUSTRIES

Education  
Film & Television  
Media, Publishing, & Communications

#### EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University  
J.D., 1994, Order of the Coif  
Rhodes College  
B.A., 1990, Phi Beta Kappa

#### CLERKSHIP

Law Clerk to Associate Justice Sandra  
Day O'Connor, United States  
Supreme Court, 1995-96  
  
Law Clerk to Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson  
III, United States Court of Appeals,  
Fourth Circuit, 1994-95

#### BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia  
North Carolina  
Virginia  
US Court of Appeals  
3rd Circuit  
4th Circuit  
9th Circuit  
11th Circuit  
D.C. Circuit  
Federal Circuit  
US District Court - North Carolina  
Western District  
Middle District  
Eastern District

before federal agencies and the courts, including the application of federal indecency standards to television broadcasts and the assertion of television stations' rights under the Copyright Act.

## APPELLATE AND CONSTITUTIONAL LITIGATION

Julia's clerkship experiences at the United States Supreme Court and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals spurred her passion for appellate litigation. She welcomes the challenge of advocating for the interpretation and application of even the most complex laws in the appellate setting and helping clients navigate the often-formidable appellate process. The same passion for resolving the most demanding legal issues drives Julia's regular engagement in litigation raising state and federal constitutional questions.

Representative matters include:

Successful appeal setting aside a six-figure jury verdict in a multi-week wrongful termination lawsuit.

Representation of a newspaper publisher in a multi-week jury trial and on appeal stemming from a libel claim brought by a state employee.

Reinstatement of a federal district court order granting Westfall immunity to confidential informants working with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

## EDUCATION

Julia has represented local school boards in a variety of trial and appellate litigation matters, including cases involving funding disputes, access to school property, free speech, discrimination, personal injury, employment, and the constitutionality of state laws governing teacher tenure.

## HONORS

Selected by her peers for inclusion in [\*The Best Lawyers in America\*](#)® for Appellate Practice (2019, 2020), Commercial Litigation (2020)

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Vice-Chair, Appellate Practice Section, [North Carolina Bar Association](#) (2014-2015)

Chair-elect, Appellate Practice Section, North Carolina Bar Association (2015-2016)

Member, Constitutional Rights and Responsibilities Section, [North Carolina Bar Association](#) (2007-present)

## PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA

Julia Ambrose, presenter: "Recent Developments at the Federal Communications Commission," UNC School of Law Festival of Legal Learning, February 2019

Julia Ambrose, presenter: "Recent Developments at the Federal Communications Commission," UNC School of Law

Festival of Legal Learning, February 2018

Julia Ambrose and Ed West, presenters: "Ethics Update for In-House Counsel: Litigation, Investigations and Management," Association of Corporate Counsel event, December 2017 (repeated for the ACC Triad Chapter, March 2018)

Julia Ambrose and Jesse Witten, U.S. Supreme Court Declines Again To Interpret FCA Public Disclosure Bar, Bureau of National Affairs Health Care Fraud Report, March 2006

Julia Ambrose, Laura Chipman, & Charles Marshall, Commercial-Free TV and Aereo: What Lies Ahead for Content Owners in the Wake of the Ninth Circuit's AutoHop Decision, Communications Lawyer, November 2013

Julia C. Ambrose and Laura S. Chipman, A Distinction Without a Difference: Why Thousands of Tiny Antennas Didn't Save Aereo at the Supreme Court, Communications Lawyer (forthcoming 2014)

Julia C. Ambrose, "Clerking for the FWOTSC: Recollections of a Former O'Connor Clerk," In Chambers: More Stories of Supreme Court Law Clerks and Their Justices (UVA Press forthcoming 2015)

Seven Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Present at the 2019 Festival of Legal Learning, January 29, 2019

Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Present at the 2018 Festival of Legal Learning, January 3, 2018

Eighteen Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Speak at the 2016 Festival of Legal Learning, February 2, 2016

Brooks Pierce Attorneys Represent School Boards in Key Cases, February 1, 2014

Supreme Court Rocks Campaign Finance Boat, February 19, 2010

Indecency Challenges Proceed Through the Federal Courts, October 1, 2009

#### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Brooks Pierce Partners Present Ethics CLE for Triad Members of ACC , May 4, 2018

Brooks Pierce Partners Ed West and Julia Ambrose Present Ethics CLE for Association of Corporate Counsel, January 30, 2018

Twenty Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Speak at the 2015 Festival of Legal Learning, February 10, 2015

Julia Ambrose Presents at Appellate Rules Committee CLE, November 13, 2009