



“Anyone can follow the outdated steps in a dusty old playbook. I work with clients to provide creative, modern, cost-effective approaches to meet the challenges they face.”

Ryan Spiegel

Principal

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Ryan Spiegel chairs the firm’s Government Contracts practice and is a member of its Litigation, Appellate, Corporate, and Science & Technology practice groups. His work spans a wide range of industries, includes general business and risk management counseling, and is characterized by outstanding client service, effective case strategy, and creative legal arguments. While he can be a tenacious litigator when necessary and maintains an excellent grasp of procedure, Ryan strives to understand his clients’ interests and goals and seek the best solution for them. He believes that resolving problems and disputes is more important than arguing for its own sake.

In recent years, Ryan has established an impressive Government Contracts practice, covering bid protests, trade secrets, the False Claims Act, and various contract disputes and business torts. In 2017, Law360 named him one of only five Rising Stars nationwide in Government Contracts law. He often advises contractors on responding to government investigations, organizing their corporate structure, and obtaining set-aside statuses for small and disadvantaged businesses. Ryan understands the interplay between contract law, government procurement, and corporate law – giving him particular insight to identify issues of concern and propose creative approaches. Additionally, Ryan leverages his command of the intricate processes of administrative law and civil litigation to advance his clients’ interests.

Ryan also handles trademark law matters and has experience with Maryland municipal law issues as well as Maryland election and campaign finance laws.

Prior to joining Paley Rothman, Ryan spent a decade litigating in the D.C. office of the Am Law 100 firm, Winston & Strawn. As a law student at Stanford Law School, he worked as an extern in the Office of the Legal Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in The Hague, helping to prosecute international war criminals and forge multilateral agreements with other countries. Driven by a strong commitment to community service, Ryan has performed countless hours of pro bono work on a variety of matters over the years, including serving as lead counsel on a death penalty appeal in Alabama, as well as working on Holocaust reparations claims, asylum cases, and landlord/tenant disputes. He also serves as an elected City Council member in Gaithersburg, Maryland and is an active member of the boards of directors of the Maryland Municipal League and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Additionally, Ryan is proud to serve as the National Judge Advocate of The Navy League of the United States, providing advice and counsel as a member of the League’s steering committee and board of directors and helping to further the League’s mission of supporting our nation’s sea services.

PRACTICE AREAS

Government Contracts
Litigation: Business
Litigation: Individual
Appellate Practice
Corporate
Science & Technology

BAR ADMISSIONS

Maryland
District of Columbia
New York
U.S. District Court for Maryland
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

EDUCATION

J.D., Stanford Law School
- Lawrason Driscoll Moot Court Award, 2003
- President of the Law & Policy Review
- Summer clerk/extern for U.S. District Court Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly
B.A., *magna cum laude*, University of Maryland
- H.C. Byrd Citizenship Award (most outstanding graduating male), 2000

ACCOLADES & AWARDS

VIP List (Successful by 40), *The Daily Record* (2018)
Law360 Rising Star in Government Contracts (2017)
Maryland *Super Lawyers* "Rising Star" (2015-2018)
Washington D.C. *Super Lawyers* "Rising Star" (2015-2018)
Top Ten 'Young Guns' of Montgomery County, Maryland Politics Watch (2009)
Outstanding Achievement Award, Washington Lawyers Committee, for work on Immigrant and Refugee Rights (2005)
Winston & Strawn Pro Bono "Commitment to Justice" award (2004)
AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rated

IN THE NEWS

Ryan Spiegel Elected as President-Elect of the Maryland Municipal League (MML)

17 Paley Rothman Attorneys Named to the 2018 Washington D.C. Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists

17 Paley Rothman Attorneys Named to the 2018 Maryland Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists

Ryan Spiegel Named National Judge Advocate for Navy League of the United States

Ryan Spiegel named as one of Law360's Rising Stars for 2017

Ryan Spiegel Re-Elected to Gaithersburg City Council

Ryan Spiegel Joins Firm as Principal in Government Contracts, Litigation and Corporate

Ryan Spiegel Provides Commentary for Law360 Article on False Claims Act Litigation

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

"HB 858: Clarifying the Role of Alternate Members on Local Historic District Commissions," *Maryland Bar Bulletin*, November 15, 2012

"A Salute to Justice O'Connor," *The Washington Post*, July 2, 2005

"Bank on Gaithersburg," *Maryland Politics Watch*, May 12, 2010

"Thinking Locally: An Alternative Path to Campaign Finance Reform in Maryland," *Maryland Politics Watch*, February 4, 2010

"CCT: A worthy project gets short shrift," *The Gazette*, March 18, 2009

CIVIC & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Navy League of the United States, National Judge Advocate
Gaithersburg City Council, Vice President

Maryland Municipal League

- President
- State Board of Directors
- Former President of Montgomery County chapter

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

- Board of Directors
- Member of Climate, Energy & Environment Policy Committee

SPEECHES & PRESENTATIONS

"Pathways to Practice: Trends in Public Policy," University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law, February 2019

"Fireside Forum: Immigration, a Local Government Perspective," Leisure World, April 2014

Panel, "The Economics of Immigration Reform," Institute for Immigration Research at George Mason University, 2013

"Do's and Don'ts of Using Social Media," Maryland Municipal League Fall Conference, Hagerstown, 2012

Roundtable, "What I Wish I Knew," Winston & Strawn Summer Associate Conference, Chicago, 2012

"Big Ideas Forum: Bank on Gaithersburg," Maryland Municipal League Fall Conference, Annapolis, 2010

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

Won summary judgment in Maryland federal court for Exelis, Inc. (formerly of ITT, recently acquired by Harris Corp.) after a former employee sued the company under the False Claims Act for whistleblower retaliation related to a military product that jammed the signal of roadside bombs in combat zones. Secured a unanimous affirmation of that dismissal on appeal to the Fourth Circuit, won a judgment against the employee for breach of contract, and resolved parallel government investigations with no negative action.

Successfully protested U.S. Navy's exclusion of Service-Disabled Veteran Owned IT Company from consideration during competitive solicitation, forcing Navy to take corrective action and ultimately include Company in \$100 million multiple-award contract.

Successfully quashed several writs of attachment against the assets of Al Jazeera America that threatened to freeze the broadcast company's operations.

Represented seller of small disadvantaged government contracting company specializing in professional services during successful acquisition of company and its ongoing federal contracts.

Successfully negotiated settlement and dismissal of various business lawsuits, including employee profit sharing dispute with a government contractor, claim for fraudulent transfer of assets in a Ponzi scheme, and subcontractor claim for payment against prime federal contractor.

Arbitrated a restrictive covenant in the partnership agreement of a medical practice, and succeeded in allowing a retired partner to continue conducting independent medical research in most of the region.

Pro Bono:

Represented Alabama death row inmate in multiple state and federal habeas corpus proceedings, arguing ineffective assistance of original counsel, intellectual disability of defendant, and several other legal deficiencies warranting reversal of capital sentence; persuaded Alabama Supreme Court to limit application of procedural bar.

Represented the nonprofit Free Speech for People in federal litigation to uphold laws prohibiting pension fund managers from donating to the campaigns of elected officials who award pension contracts.

Represented the Coalition for Utility Reform – a group of local governments, elected officials, nonprofits, and industry groups – in the Maryland Public Service Commission proceedings addressing the proposed merger of Pepco and Exelon. Advocated for reliability enhancements, consumer protections, investments in clean and renewable energy, distributed energy generation, and, most notably, performance-based ratemaking to align utility performance with the public interest. Arguments and testimony presented on behalf of the Coalition were cited extensively by the strong dissenting opinion of 2 of the 5 commissioners.

MEDIA COMMENTARY

"Attys Dish On Escobar's FCA Impact One Year Later," *Law360.com*, June 2017