



WILLIAM M. OJILE JR.

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LAW PRACTICE

Bill Ojile has over 25 years of experience advising, counseling and trying cases on behalf of companies. He also serves as co-leader of the Higher Education industry team.

Bill is trusted by senior management and boards of directors of companies of all sizes to bring an experienced and measured perspective to sophisticated legal, regulatory and business issues. Valued for his understanding of business issues and his ability to bring forth creative solutions to help address complicated issues, Bill's clients benefit from his 15 years of experience as a general counsel. Before joining Armstrong Teasdale, Bill served for six years as general counsel for a large, publicly traded telecommunications company and for nine years as general counsel of a multi-campus private college. In both positions, he had responsibility for all legal, regulatory, human resources, government affairs and compliance matters. This unique skill-set allows Bill to address and provide advice on a wide range of corporate legal issues.

Bill has tried many cases before and made appellate arguments to federal and state courts and administrative agencies across the country. These disputes have required Bill to oversee large teams of people and to manage legal, administrative, public relations and legislative issues, as well as formulating strategic direction, often simultaneously. Bill is adept at negotiating resolution of complex and multi-faceted legal and policy disputes. His extensive experience working with companies operating in the higher education, telecommunications and energy sectors translate well to other regulated businesses facing similar issues.

His transactional experience includes leading an IPO, a multi-billion dollar merger and numerous smaller transactions. Bill has extensive experience negotiating, drafting and enforcing the terms of significant contracts, including financing agreements, master services agreements, agreements with company executives and professional services agreements. He has implemented compliance programs for multiple companies and provides advice and counsel on all types of corporate governance issues.

BACKGROUND

Before joining Armstrong Teasdale, Bill served for six years as general counsel for a large, publicly traded telecommunications company. In addition, Bill served for nine years as general counsel of a multi-campus private college. In both positions, he had responsibility for all legal, regulatory, human resources, government affairs and compliance matters.

EXPERIENCE

Higher Education

- Work with regional and national accrediting bodies, including responding to accrediting body actions, such as show cause and probation orders.

EDUCATION

University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Law (J.D., *Order of the Barristers*, 1985)(Allen Moot Court Board)

University of Nebraska - Omaha (B.S., Business Administration, *cum laude*, 1981)

ADMITTED TO BAR

Colorado
Minnesota
Nebraska
U.S. District Court, District of Colorado

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Colorado Supreme Court Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee (Member, 2007-2014)
National Association of College and University Attorneys (NACUA) (Member; Web Page Legal Resources Committee; Advisory Committee, *Journal of College and University Law*)
Colorado Supreme Court Proactive Risk-Based Regulation Subcommittee (Member)
Colorado Attorney Mentoring Program (CAMP) (Member)
American Arbitration Association Commercial Panel (Member)
Career Education Colleges and Universities (Member)

CIVIC & CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

The Wayfaring Band (Chairman of the Board, 2015-present)
University of Nebraska College of Law Space & Telecom Program (Advisory Board Member, 2009-present)
Colorado Uplift (Board Member)
Rocky Mountain Human Services (Board Member)

- Address issues and file applications under federal and state regulations on issues impacting institutions of higher education, including new programs, new campus locations, campus moves/closures, change of accrediting body, investigations/inquiries by Office of Civil Rights, Federal Student Aid and Family Policy Compliance Office, and change of control.
- Assisted colleges with the drafting of documents and negotiation of transactions, including purchase and sale transactions, credit agreements, transactions with lenders, and significant contracts.
- Help colleges and universities develop the appropriate policies and measures aimed at complying with state and federal laws, including Title IV, Title IX, the Clery Act, Truth in Lending Act and Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Assist colleges by reviewing and providing counsel on all advertising, publications, websites and online information.
- Review materials used by vendors, for whose actions they are now responsible, as well as fortifying indemnification and insurance clauses in their vendor contracts.
- Advise on colleges offering and advertising online education in multiple states that might be subject to laws from various states as well as federal regulations.
- Created legal, compliance and governance infrastructure for a private college.
- Advise companies providing products and services to colleges and universities on laws and regulations impacting their business relationships.

Consumer Protection

Bill has specific experience defending investigations and cases brought under state consumer protection acts, the federal False Claims Act, the Consumer Finance Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act). Recently, Bill managed the defense of multiple class action lawsuits, two wide-ranging Attorney General investigations (one of which settled, the other of which went to litigation) and overlapping regulatory and government investigations involving alleged consumer protection violations and causes of actions.

Public Utilities

- Over 17 years of experience working in-house for telecommunications companies.
- Litigated numerous high-stakes telecommunications regulatory cases involving complex economic issues.
- Experience in legal, regulatory, legislative and policy issues affecting the telecommunications and electric industries.
- Developed and implemented compliance programs.
- Significant experience in merger and acquisition matters.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Best Lawyers in America®; Commercial Litigation, Communications Law (2017-present)

Certified Public Accountant Certificate, Nebraska, 1984

Denver Business Journal Best Corporate Counsel Award (Finalist, 2013)

Dallas Business Journal Best General Counsel Award (Finalist, 2003)

2014 Award of Distinction (Feature Writing), The Communicator Awards (For [Managing the Court of Public Opinion During a Media Crisis](#))

2014 Award of Excellence (Feature Writing), Awards for Publication Excellence (For [Managing the Court of Public Opinion During a Media Crisis](#))

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

Co-Author, "[How to Help Students When Your College Closes](#)," The Chronicle of Higher Education (January 2017)

Co-Author, "[How to Responsibly Close a College](#)," The Chronicle of Higher Education (January 2017)

Author, "Court Rules Students Training in Clinics are Not Employees Under the FLSA," Career Education Review (December 2016)

Co-Author, "[Department of Education Issues Final Rules on State Authorization](#)," Armstrong Teasdale News Alert (December 2016)

Co-Presenter, "Millennials and Maintaining Compliance in the Workforce," California Association of Private Post-Secondary Schools (December 2016)

Co-Author, "[Court Rules Students Training in Clinics are Not Employees Under the FLSA](#)," Armstrong Teasdale News Alert (November 2016)

Presenter, "The U.S. Department of Education's Borrower Defense to Repayment Rules — What You Need to Know," Armstrong Teasdale webinar (November 2016)

Presenter, "116 Million Reasons to Create a Culture of Compliance," Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools' (ACICS) Annual Conference (May 2016)

Presenter, "How to Avoid the Compliance Landmines with Employment Disclosures," Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools' (ACICS) Annual Conference (May 2016)

Panelist, "Ownership Transitions and Student Populations," California Association of Private Postsecondary Schools (CAPPS) Annual Conference (October 2016)

Co-Author, "Eighth Circuit Reinstates FCA Case Over Changed College Grades, Attendance Records," Armstrong Teasdale News Alert (October 2016)

Co-Presenter, "Integrating Mystery Shopping into Your Culture," Norton Norris Webinar (October 2016)

Author, "[Board Membership: Do You Know the Risks?](#)" LinkedIn (February 2016)

Co-Author, "U.S. Government Reminds Colleges and Universities to be Prepared to Defend Advertised Statistics," Armstrong Teasdale News Alert (February 2016)

Co-Author, "Increased Government Scrutiny of Ads on Social Media Expected in 2016," Armstrong Teasdale News Alert (January 2016)

Co-Author, "2016 Could Bring Even More Headaches for Institutions of Higher Education," *Armstrong Teasdale News Alert* (December 2015)

Author, "[Consumer Protection Law: What Your Business Needs to Know](#)," LinkedIn (December 2015)

Co-Author, "CFPB Rules Proposal may Drastically Impact School Arbitration Agreements," *Career Education Review* (December 2015)

Author, "[Managing the Court of Public Opinion During a Media Crisis](#)," LinkedIn (November 2015)

Co-Author, "When the Agency Comes Knocking: Defending a US Consumer Protection Investigation," *ACC Docket* (May 2015)

Author, "So you want to be a corporate director? Practical Considerations of Director Liability," *Career Education Review* (March 2015)

Co-Author, "Managing the Court of Public Opinion During a Media Crisis," *ACC Docket* (July/August 2013)

Author, "Day in the Life – Bill Ojile," *ACC Docket* (April 2013)

Author, "Top of Mind, How do you balance the competing demands of multiple roles within the company?" *Corporate Legal Times* (November 2004)

Author, "Internal Revenue Code Section 709: To Deduct, Amortize or Capitalize, That is the Question," 65 *Nebr. L. Rev.* 385 (1986)