



MICHAEL R. KRANTZ

Of Counsel

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EDUCATION

Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, J.D., 2013, *cum laude*, Executive Articles Editor, Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology

Kenyon College, B.A., 2007, *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, highest honors in Political Science

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

International Paralegal Specialist, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of International Affairs

Summer Law Clerk, Cook County, Illinois State's Attorney's Office

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Sidley Austin, LLP - Associate

ADMISSIONS

Colorado
District of Columbia
Illinois

Michael Krantz helps clients identify and implement elegant litigation solutions to complex challenges. His clients have included private equity funds, multinational manufacturers, utilities providers, and foreign governments across industries as diverse as energy, banking, mining, and transportation. Michael has participated on eight trial teams, drafting arguments, creating cross-examination outlines, and preparing and interviewing witnesses—including in Spanish.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Representing the Southeastern Conference in certified and putative class actions across the country against the NCAA and its five major athletic conferences regarding student-athlete benefits.
- Defended a pharmaceutical startup company in an SEC enforcement action alleging misappropriation of investor funds and related Securities Act and Exchange Act claims.
- Won a \$268 million award for a private equity fund in an international investment treaty arbitration against a government that improperly interfered with the sale of a business.
- Won a favorable result for a multinational insurance company accused of insurance bad faith, intentional interference with a contract, and bid rigging and price fixing in violation of the Colorado Antitrust Act.
- Representing an intellectual property law firm facing legal malpractice claims involving \$60 million in sought damages.
- Advised a multinational manufacturer in FCPA investigations, including conducting witness interviews, managing document review, and drafting the final investigation summaries for the client.
- Represented a European utilities supplier in an investment treaty claim against a European government.

INDUSTRIES

- Energy
- Financial Services
- Consumer Products & Services
- Healthcare

PRACTICE AREAS

- Commercial Litigation
- Antitrust & Competition
- Investigations & Compliance
- Securities Litigation & Enforcement Defense

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BIOGRAPHY

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Prior to joining WTO, Michael served in the international arbitration practice of an AmLaw 20 firm, focusing on investment treaty arbitrations. He has also represented pro bono clients in immigration and social security proceedings. Before law school, Michael served for several years in the U.S. Department of Justice as an international paralegal specialist.

CASES

- Representing the Southeastern Conference in certified and putative class actions across the country against the NCAA and its five major athletic conferences regarding student-athlete benefits.
- Defended a pharmaceutical startup company in an SEC enforcement action alleging misappropriation of investor funds and related Securities Act and Exchange Act claims.
- Won a \$268 million award for a private equity fund in an international investment treaty arbitration against a government that improperly interfered with the sale of a business.
- Won a favorable result for a multinational insurance company accused of insurance bad faith, intentional interference with a contract, and bid rigging and price fixing in violation of the Colorado Antitrust Act.
- Representing an intellectual property law firm facing legal malpractice claims involving \$60 million in sought damages.
- Served as lead associate to a private equity fund in an international commercial arbitration involving breach of contract and fraudulent misrepresentations.
- Successfully defended a South American government against claims that the government improperly terminated a vehicle inspections concession, including a full dismissal of all claims and an award of partial costs in favor of the client.
- Successfully defended a South American government against claims that the government improperly revoked a mining authorization where the claimant was awarded less than 5% of claimed damages.

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- Represented a European utilities supplier in an investment treaty claim against a European government.
- Advised a multinational manufacturer in FCPA investigations, including conducting witness interviews, managing document review, and drafting the final investigation summaries for the client.
- Successfully represented one of the nation's largest grocery and foodservice distributors as a direct action plaintiff in antitrust litigation concerning broiler chickens.
- Advised a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit that supplies solar energy technology to developing communities worldwide.
- Advocated for pro bono clients in cases involving immigration benefits, tenant-landlord disputes, disability benefits, and more.

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Colorado
District of Columbia
Illinois

ARTICLES & PRESENTATIONS

Articles

- "Walking Firearms to Gun Runners: ATF's Flawed Operation in a Flawed System," 103 *NW J. Crim. L. & Criminology* 585, (2013).

PERSONAL INTERESTS

- European soccer, hiking, musical theater, and cooking.