

Thomas J. Braun

Senior Associate

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Practice Areas

- Insurance Coverage
- Complex Litigation
- Insurance Defense
- Real Estate
- Business Law

Personal Narrative

Tom joined Nicoll Black & Feig in September 2007. Prior to joining Nicoll Black & Feig, he served as a law clerk to Washington State Supreme Court Justice Charles W. Johnson and practiced for three years as an associate attorney at the Seattle office of Cozen O'Connor. During law school Tom was a member of Seattle University Law Review, and he served as an extern for Judge Barbara J. Rothstein in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington. Tom also has several years' experience prior to law school as a paralegal.

Tom focuses his practice on insurance and real estate matters. His insurance experience includes advising clients on pre-litigation insurance coverage matters as well as a wide array of complex civil litigation at both the trial court and appellate levels. Tom's real estate experience includes issues relating to leases, easements, and the purchase and sale of real property. Tom also has experience in a variety of business law issues, including formation of business entities, protection of intellectual property, and negotiation of contracts.

Tom is a member of the American, Washington, and King County Bar Associations, and was named a "Rising Star" by Washington Law & Politics in 2007 and 2008.

Representative Matters

- Briefed arguments for insurance company client in *Schnitzer Investment Corp. v. Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's of London*, 341 Or. 128, 137 P.3d 1282 (2006), in which the Oregon Supreme Court held that there was no physical damage to groundwater during policy period legally obligating insurers to indemnify insured for cleanup costs.
- Represented insurer's interests in multi-million dollar insurance coverage/bad faith declaratory judgment lawsuit and concurrent appeal of related issues in underlying litigation.
- Represented owner's interests with respect to easement and encroachment issues in relation to sale of multi-million dollar commercial real estate.
- Formed various business entities, including their internal corporate documents, and ensured compliance with corporate formalities.

Education

University of Iowa, B.A. in English cum laude, 1995
Seattle University School of Law, J.D. summa cum laude 2003

Professional Experience

Judicial Clerk, Washington State Supreme Court, 2003 – 2004
Associate, Cozen O'Connor, 2004 – 2007
Senior Associate, Nicoll Black & Feig, 2007 – present

Associations

American Bar Association
Washington State Bar Association
King County Bar Association

Honors

Washington Law & Politics “Rising Star” – 2007 & 2008

Bar Memberships

Washington
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington
U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit