

C. Robert Steringer

Shareholder and President | Portland Office



Bob represents businesses, public bodies, political organizations, private individuals, and a tribal government in matters at the intersection of law and public policy. Drawing on experience inside and outside government, Bob advises clients on intergovernmental relations, government contracting, public records and government ethics. He also litigates cases in those areas and others, including constitutional law, intra-organizational disputes, prevailing wage law, and claims against government bodies and higher education institutions.

As a business litigator, Bob works with clients to identify and execute plans to resolve disputes in ways that make business sense. In some cases, that might involve a business solution such as restructuring a contract or negotiating an owner's exit from the business. In others, it will involve litigating the dispute through trial and any appeals, working closely with the client to maintain focus on achieving the desired result as cost-effectively as possible. Bob assists business clients in a wide variety of matters, including ownership disputes, products liability, professional liability, and breaches of contracts.

As the firm's President, he is also responsible for managing the law firm.

Professional Recognition ▼

- Received an **AV® Preeminent™** rating by the [Martindale-Hubbell National Law Directory](#)
- Included in [The Best Lawyers in America®](#) in the fields of appellate practice and commercial litigation for 2013, 2014, and 2015
- Elected as a [Fellow of the American Bar Foundation](#) (2014 – present) (an honorary organization of lawyers, judges and legal scholars whose careers have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the welfare of their communities and to the highest principles of the legal profession, limited to one-third of one-percent of the lawyers licensed to practice in each jurisdiction of the United States)

Admissions & Memberships ▼

Bob is a member of the Oregon State Bar, Washington State Bar, the American Bar Association, the Multnomah Bar Association, and the Federal Bar Association. He is admitted to practice before all state courts in Oregon and Washington, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the U.S. District Court for the State of Oregon, and the Tribal Court of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians.

Bob has served on the Multnomah Bar Association's Board of Directors since 2012 and currently serves as the Multnomah Bar Association's Treasurer. He is the immediate past-chair of the Oregon State Bar Constitutional Law Section and has served on its Executive Committee since 2009. He previously served as chair of the MBA Professionalism Committee, member of the Oregon State Bar's Public Service Advisory Committee, and member of the MBA Pro Bono Task Force. Since 2011, Bob spends time on both the Multnomah Bar Association's mentor program as well as the Oregon State Bar's New Lawyer Mentoring Program as a mentoring lawyer.

Education ▼

Bob is a 1998 graduate from the University of Oregon School of Law, where he was Executive Editor of the *Oregon Law Review*.

Trial & Appellate Advocacy Highlights ▼

Contact Information

[Email](#) | [PDF](#) | [vCard](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Portland Office

1001 SW Fifth Avenue, 16th Floor
Portland, OR 97204

Tel: 503.242.0000

Fax: 503.241.1458

Practice Emphasis

[Appellate Law](#)

[Business and Commercial Litigation](#)

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Proceedings](#)

Professional Recognition



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HARRANG LONG GARY RUDNICK P.C.

- Counsel to an educational institution in litigation challenging the decision to expel a graduate student for possessing a deadly weapon on campus
- Prevailed on behalf of an intervening water district in election challenge lawsuit, successfully defending its position on the legal status of district residents within annexed territory, in Clackamas County Circuit Court (2013).
- Obtained jury verdict for \$223,832.05 on promissory estoppel claim relating to ownership of a corporation, in Lane County Circuit Court (2013).
- Obtained judgment of foreclosure on hotel property and money award of \$2,744,647.33 plus interest, costs and attorney fees, in Clatsop County Circuit Court (2012).
- Filed amicus brief in Oregon Supreme Court on behalf of Oregon Association of Hospitals & Health Systems, Oregon Medical Association and American Medical Association in *Paul v. Providence Health System-Oregon*, relating to liability of a health care provider for theft of patient information by a third party (2012).
- Successfully defended trial court judgment affirming city's creation of a local improvement district, 241 Or App 378 (2011).
- Obtained reversal of trial court judgment dismissing client's claim for declaratory judgment that client was a shareholder of a corporation, 241 Or App 255 (2011).
- Filed amicus brief on behalf of Oregon Association of Defense Counsel in *Cohens v. McGee*, 219 Or App 78 (2008), and *White v. Jubitz Corp.*, 347 Or 212 (2009) (both relating to the question of whether written-off medical bills are recoverable as economic damages in negligence cases).
- Successfully defended trial court judgment on appeal to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, affirming summary judgment in favor of municipality and police officer in claim for negligence and violation of Fourth Amendment rights (unpublished opinion) (2009).
- Successfully defended trial court judgment on appeal to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, affirming summary judgment in favor of client in Section 1983 claims asserting violations of various constitutional rights (unpublished opinion) (2009).
- Filed amicus brief in Oregon Supreme Court on behalf of Oregon Association of Hospitals & Health Systems in *Christiansen v. Providence Health System*, 344 Or 445 (2008) (relating to application of the Oregon Constitution's "remedy clause" to a claim for prenatal injuries).
- Obtained decision of the Oregon Court of Appeals remanding order of Oregon Public Utility Commission for reconsideration due to PUC's incorrect interpretation of state law, 224 Or App 485 (2008).
- Obtained decision of the Oregon Court of Appeals affirming, without opinion, a judgment in favor of client against claim for professional negligence, 203 Or App 639 (2006).
- Obtained reversal of trial court's decision to dismiss client's negligence claim based on standards for sufficiency of expert testimony, 200 Or App 15 (2005).

Publications

- Co-Author with Brett Applegate: "[When Stranahan Doesn't Get You Where You Need to Go – Advocating for New Approaches to Interpreting the Oregon Constitution](#)," Oregon State Bar's Oregon Constitutional Law Newsletter (Summer 2014).
 - Member of the Board of Editors: *Oregon Constitutional Law* (2013 ed.), Oregon State Bar publication (winner of the Association for Continuing Legal Education's "Best Award" of Outstanding Achievement in Publications).
 - Author: "Contract Clause," Chapter 8 in *Oregon Constitutional Law* (2013 ed.), Oregon State Bar publication.
 - Co-Author with James E. Mountain, Jr. and Jona J. Maukonen: "Postdecision Matters in the Court of Appeals," Chapter 11 in *Appeal and Review: the Basics* (2010 ed.), Oregon State Bar publication.
 - Co-Author: Oregon chapter in "Lobbying, PACs, and Campaign Finance – 50 State Handbook," published annually by the State Capital Group through Thomson Reuters/West (2009-2013).
 - Author: "Litigating the 'Fair Value' of a Business Organization," published in Winter 2011 edition of *The Verdict* (OADC publication) (explored strategies for litigating "fair value" in business break-ups).
 - Co-author with Susan D. Marmaduke: "Abandoning 'We Can't Tell,'" *Oregon State Bar Bulletin*, 2003 (analyzed the power vested in the judiciary to affirm judgments notwithstanding trial court errors, comparing the Oregon Supreme Court's decision in *Shoup v. Wal-Mart Stores* with Amended Article VII, section 3, of the Oregon Constitution).
 - Author: "The Clergy-Penitent Privilege in Oregon," *Oregon Law Review*, 1997 (analyzed the history and application of Oregon's clergy-penitent privilege in the context of a news-making dispute over the recording of a conversation between a jail inmate and a Catholic priest).
 - Co-author of Introduction with Kurt Wanless: "Oregon Land Use Symposium – The Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of S.B. 100," *Oregon Law Review*, 1998.
 - Author: "Is a Lobbyist's Gift to a Public Official an Empty Gesture?" in Oregon State Bar Constitutional Law Section's March 2011 Newsletter (analyzed Oregon Supreme Court case regarding constitutionality of statutes regulating gifts from lobbyists to elected officials).
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▪ **Bob Steringer Elected to the Fellows of the American Bar Foundation**

Portland

1001 S.W. Fifth Avenue, 16th Floor
Portland, OR 97204-1116

Tel: 503.242.0000
Fax: 503.241.1458

Eugene

360 E. 10th Avenue, Suite 300
Eugene, OR 97401-3273

Tel: 541.485.0220
Fax: 541.686.6564

Salem

333 High Street, N.E., Suite 200
Salem, OR 97301-3614

Tel: 503.371.3330
Fax: 503.371.5336

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