

Nicholas G. Gamse

Associate

Nick Gamse concentrates his practice in First Amendment and media law, and complex civil litigation.

Nick has extensive experience in media and entertainment litigation. He has represented leading media companies, celebrities, and journalists in disputes spanning a wide variety of issues, including antitrust, breach of contract, copyright, defamation, employment, First Amendment and freedom of speech, government investigations, news access and newsgathering, privacy and theme park disputes. In addition to an active litigation practice, Nick also provides counselling to media companies and journalists to help identify and address liability issues prior to publication. He is active in the media law bar, and currently serves as the Secretary of the D.C. Bar's Media Law Committee, and as a member of the Council for Court Excellence Bench-Bar-Media Dialogue Committee. Earlier in his career, Nick worked as a management consultant advising companies in the media business.

Nick frequently litigates professional liability matters, and has counseled accounting, consulting, and law firms in numerous breach of contract and professional negligence disputes. In addition, he has represented clients in a number of other substantive areas, such as higher education, the False Claims Act, and unfair competition. While many of Nick's representations are for large clients, he regularly counsels individuals and start-ups.

Born and raised in the Washington, DC area, Nick graduated from the University of Virginia in 2005 and the JD-MBA program at Northwestern in 2011, where he was a member of the *Northwestern University Law Review* and Order of the Coif. He served as a law clerk to Chief Judge Dennis Jacobs on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit prior to joining Williams & Connolly in 2013. Nick serves as Co-Chair of the firm's Families Committee, and is a member of the firm's Diversity & Inclusion and Hiring Committees.

Nick has been active in the firm's pro bono work and has previously served on the Boards of the Mid-Atlantic Section of the United States Tennis Association and of Madison House.

Publications

- *The Indecency of Indecency*, 22 Fordham Intell. Prop. Media & Ent. L.J. 287 (2012)
- *Legal Remedies to Protect Public Interest Journalism*, 105 NW.



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Education

Northwestern University School of Law, J.D., cum laude, 2011: Order of the Coif, Symposium and Essays Editors, Northwestern University Law Review

Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management, M.B.A., 2011

University of Virginia, B.A., with distinction, 2005: Echols Scholar

Admissions

New York and District of Columbia United States Supreme Court
United States Courts of Appeals for the Second and Ninth Circuits
United States District Court for the District of Columbia

U.L. Rev. 329 (2011)

Representative Experience

Though all cases vary and none is predictive, Nick's experience includes:

- Ongoing representation of major news organization concerning its coverage of a protest at the National Mall. The court partially granted a motion to dismiss.
- Successful representation of HBO in defamation suit concerning episode of satirical news program regarding coal industry. The court granted a motion to dismiss.
- Successful representation of executive producer and narrator in defamation suit concerning gun control documentary. The case was dismissed by the trial court and affirmed by the Fourth Circuit on appeal.
- Successful defense of major news organization in defamation suit concerning its coverage of a candidate for United States Senate. The court granted a motion to dismiss.
- Successful defense at trial of libel suit against HBO by major soccer ball company based on HBO's report of child labor in India.
- Successful defense of client charged in first-ever prosecution of Maryland speech crime. The government dropped all charges.
- Representation of major entertainment company in successfully resolved multinational theme park dispute.
- Representation of coalition of 39 major media organizations as amicus curiae in successful appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit regarding liability for good faith mistakes in journalism.
- Representation of major news organization in successfully resolved defamation suit arising out of news article regarding failed multinational business venture.
- Representation of cable network in successfully resolved breach of contract dispute with reality star.
- Representation of journalists and major news organization in Privacy Act dispute.
- Representation of news organization in various juvenile access proceedings.

- Representation of filmmaker in breach of contract dispute.
- Representation of various news organizations in addressing litigation threats prior to and after publication.
- Representation of major consulting firm in breach of contract dispute.
- Representation of major accounting, consulting and law firms in various professional services litigation.
- Representation of pharmaceutical company in prominent qui tam lawsuit brought against multiple specialty pharmacy providers.
- Representation of school of higher education in an accreditation dispute.
- Representation of group of local television stations as plaintiffs in a putative class action alleging civil antitrust violations based on performing rights organization's licensing practices.*
- Representation of insurance company in defense of claims regarding misappropriation of trade secrets and aiding and abetting breaches of fiduciary duty.*
- Successful appeal to the Seventh Circuit regarding the appropriate standard of review upon a motion for a new trial in an excessive force case.*

*Representation occurred prior to Nick's association with Williams & Connolly.