

## Christopher D. Lonn

*Member*



### **Overview**

Mr. Lonn is a Member of Jennings Strouss whose legal practice is focused on complex commercial litigation, arbitration and administrative law, with a specific emphasis on securities and investment fraud litigation and arbitration, real estate disputes, business divorces, dental professional representation and employment law and litigation.

### **Contact**

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- Phoenix, AZ

### **Areas of Focus**

- Commercial Litigation
- Construction
- Securities Litigation and Arbitration
- Real Estate Litigation
- HOA Representation
- Lemon Law Litigation
- Business Torts
- Corporate Governance and Shareholder Disputes

## **Education**

J.D., University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law (1993)

- American Jurisprudence Award Recipient (1990)
- Moot Court Contestant

B.S., Justice Studies, Arizona State University (1988)

- *magna cum laude*

## **Biography**

Mr. Lonn is a Member of Jennings Strouss whose legal practice is focused on complex commercial litigation, arbitration and administrative law, with a specific emphasis on securities and investment fraud litigation and arbitration, real estate disputes, business divorces, dental professional representation and employment law and litigation. For over 25 years, Mr. Lonn has represented clients in a wide array of matters involving: business disputes, commercial torts, commercial sales contracts, buy-sell agreements, non-competition agreements, non-solicitation agreements, non-disclosure agreements, trade secret litigation, defamation and breaches of fiduciary duty. Mr. Lonn is licensed to practice in Arizona and California.

Mr. Lonn strives to take complex and confusing factual and legal issues and break them down into easily understandable concepts. Another important aspect of Mr. Lonn's representation is to comprehensively evaluate the dispute or business matter from all angles and then select the most cost-effective and practical way to tackle it.

In connection with his securities and investment fraud practice, Mr. Lonn has experience representing broker-dealers and investors in proceedings before administrative agencies, including the Arizona Securities Division, the Arizona Corporation Commission, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Mr. Lonn has also represented clients before the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions.

Mr. Lonn handles all aspects of HOA representation. Mr. Lonn has experience representing and advising HOAs and their management companies. In addition, Mr. Lonn represents homeowners against their HOAs, as well. Mr. Lonn brings an “insider’s” perspective to such representations as he has served multiple terms on his own community’s Board of Directors and was also the chairperson of the Architectural Review Committee.

## **Admissions**

### **Admitted to Practice**

- California (1999)
- Arizona (1993)

### **Court Admission**

- U.S. District Court, Central District of California (2002)
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California (1999)
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit (1995)
- U.S. District Court, District of Arizona (1993)

## **Representative Experience**

### **Securities and Investment Fraud Litigation**

- Successfully represented a client in a business investment scam. The client received 100% of their funds back.
- [Successfully represented client in FINRA securities fraud arbitration against a national broker dealer and its registered representative winning an award for compensatory damages and punitive damages.](#)
- [Successfully represented client in arbitration against a Registered Investment Advisor and its investment advisor representative by proving breach of fiduciary duty, professional negligence and negligent misrepresentations.](#)
- Successfully represented public customers against a national broker-dealer in securities fraud case in FINRA arbitration where claims for negligence, negligent supervision, suitability, lack of due diligence, selling away, breaches of fiduciary duty and other claims were also alleged. The public customer clients received a recovery of in the seven figures.
- Successfully obtained a unanimous defense verdict in a securities fraud lawsuit filed against husband and wife business owners.
- Representation of many public customer clients against broker-dealers and Registered Investment Advisors resulting in substantial settlements.
- Representation of broker-dealers and registered representatives in FINRA arbitrations.
- Ponzi scheme litigation.

## **Construction Law and Litigation**

- Represented some of Arizona’s largest home builders in all forms of construction litigation and administrative proceedings before the Arizona Registrar of Contractors.
- Represented many individual homeowners against general contractors and subcontractors in connection with construction defects.
- Representation of contractors and homeowners regarding the termination of construction contracts.
- Representation of subcontractors in claims brought by project owners or general contractors.

### **Business Litigation**

- Successfully defended a business owner in a jury trial involving a dispute arising out of the sale of a business that also included environmental issues.
- Successful trial verdict in a complex breach of contract case.
- Successful representation of legal professionals in “business divorce” disputes.
- Prosecution and defense of claims alleging all forms of business torts, breaches of contract and breaches of fiduciary duty.
- Successful representation of businesses in bringing or defending against trade secret and unfair competition claims.
- Successful representation of golf clubs and homeowners’ associations brought by or against members.

### **Lemon Law Litigation**

- Successfully represented a married couple against an automobile manufacturer and obtained the only known jury verdict finding that excessive brake noise is a defect under a governing “lemon law” statute.
- Successful representation of car dealer in lawsuit filed by lemon law plaintiff in California.
- Successfully represented an individual in a warranty dispute concerning a collector vehicle and obtained a full refund for this individual client.

### **Real Estate Litigation**

- Representation of individuals and companies in commercial real estate investments.
- Commercial purchase and lease disputes.
- Mobile home and RV park disputes.

### **Arizona Administrative Agency Representation**

- Representation of businesses and individuals before the Arizona Corporation Commission.
- Representation of broker-dealers in securities disputes.
- Represents clients with regulatory inquiries, investigations, Wells’ responses, examinations under oath and defense of enforcement actions.
- Represents licensed contractors in commercial litigation matters and before the Arizona Registrar

of Contractors (ROC).

- Represents dental and medical professionals before various administrative agencies.
- Representation of Real Estate Agents before the Arizona Department of Real Estate.

### **Appellate Representation**

- Successful representation of clients in Arizona appellate cases.

### **Media and Presentations**

#### **Articles**

- [“Opportunities to Invest in Private Companies Grow,”](#) Quoted, *Wall Street Journal* (2018)

#### **Blogs**

- [“Arizona Supreme Court Issues Guidance Concerning HOA Amendments”](#) (April 2022)
- [“Jennings Strouss Wins Unprecedented Arizona ‘Lemon Law’ Lawsuit”](#) (September 2017)

#### **Presentations**

- Debate moderator between candidates running for Maricopa County Attorney (2004)
- Debate moderator between candidates running for Arizona Attorney General (2003)

#### **Videos**

- [“Concluding the Arbitration Hearing & Collection of Awarded Damages,”](#) (June 2021)
- [“Discovery in Securities Arbitration & The Importance of Securities Litigation Counsel,”](#) (June 2021)
- [“Commencement of FINRA Securities Arbitration,”](#) (June 2021)

### **Memberships**

#### **American Bar Association**

#### **State Bar of Arizona**

- Immediate Past Chair, Securities Regulation Law Section (2021 - 2022)
- Chair, Securities Regulation Law Section (2020 - 2021)
- Chair-Elect, Securities Regulation Law Section (2019 - 2020)
- Budget Officer, Securities Regulation Law Section (2018 - 2019)
- Member, Civil Practice and Procedure Committee (2003 - 2005)

#### **Maricopa County Bar Association (MCBA)**

- Member (1997 - Present)
- Ex Officio, Board of Directors (2004 - 2005)

### **Scottsdale Bar Association**

- Member (1997 - present)
- President, Board of Directors (2004 - 2005)
- Member, Board of Directors (1998 - 2006)
- Volunteer, Scottsdale Paiute Neighborhood Center (1997 - 2006)

### **City of Scottsdale**

- Member, Board of Directors, Judicial Appointments Advisory Board (2004 - 2010)

### **Construction Lawyers Society of America**

### **Maricopa County Superior Court**

- Judge Pro Tem (2004 - 2007)

### **Honors and Awards**

- [AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rated™](#), Martindale-Hubbell®
- *Phoenix magazine*, "Top Lawyer," Commercial Litigation (2022)
- [The Best Lawyers in America®](#), Commercial Litigation (2022 - 2023)
- *The Arizona Republic*, "Top Rated Lawyer" (2015)