

About Us

Wilkinson Barker Knauer is not just another law firm. Founded over 50 years ago as a boutique specializing in communications law, WBK now provides advice and representation over a range of industries including energy, emerging technologies, media, and telecommunications.

By focusing on excellence and on building depth to meet clients' needs, WBK has earned recognition as one of the largest law firms in the nation dedicated primarily to the practice of communications and energy law, is ranked as a "Band 1" firm by Chambers USA (Telecom, Broadcast, and Satellite: Regulatory) and Legal 500 (Telecoms and broadcast: regulatory). WBK is the only firm to be named "Law Firm of the Year" in communications law six times by Best Lawyers Best Law Firm (2012, 2014, 2018, 2019, 2021, and 2025), and is recognized as a "Silver Band" firm for prosecution and strategy in DC and a "Bronze Band" firm in litigation and enforcement in DC in the 2026 edition of the World Trademark Review 1000: The World's Leading Trademark Professionals. Our client-oriented approach extends to our work in energy, intellectual property, privacy and security, consumer protection, business transactions and other related areas. The firm provides advice tailored to address clients' legal, regulatory, and business strategies. With over 90 lawyers and professionals in its offices in Washington, DC, Austin, TX, and Denver, CO, we combine the services, capabilities, standards, and expertise of a large-firm practice with the value, flexibility, and client-oriented personal style that only a smaller firm can deliver.

WBK has long been committed to community and service, with attorneys and staff devoting substantial time and energy to pro bono work, volunteerism, civic and community leadership, charitable giving, mentoring, service on nonprofit boards, teaching, and more. These activities are actively encouraged and supported at WBK through our WBK Best, Women's Initiative, and Wellness Committees.

FIVE PILLARS OF WBK

#1 Excellence

Excellence · Expand on our industry-leading excellence. WBK's telecom and energy practices already are widely recognized for industry-leading roles. We intend to expand this recognized excellence to our other growing practice areas. As we continue to diversify our legal offerings, we aim to become a recognized leader in each legal arena in which we participate. We each have a role in accomplishing this objective through cross-selling to existing clients,

PRACTICES

Telecommunications and Media
Transactions
Energy
Security, Privacy, and Digital Policy
Transportation and Emerging Technologies
Intellectual Property
Administrative and Appellate Litigation
Enforcement and Investigations

supporting and integrating with attorneys in other offices and practice areas, and being vigilant for both hiring opportunities and client opportunities outside of our individual practice focuses.

#2 TEAMWORK

Teamwork · We are a team that is focused on clients first. All of our clients are firm clients. We are not an “eat what you kill” firm. We aspire to all work together as a team to accomplish our client’s goals, without hierarchy or sharp elbows. We avoid silos; we push work to whomever is most qualified to do the work cost effectively; and we all pitch in to serve every client. Our performance day-to-day is based on putting our clients’ needs first, rather than focusing on our personal practices. Each of us is judged by the Firm’s success.

#3 CONTRIBUTION

Contribution · Be the best that you can be. Contribute in your own way to the best of your ability. We recognize that everyone has a unique skill set, and we want each person to contribute in a manner that is best aligned with their capabilities. A key component of our strength as a firm is our commitment to leveraging the individual resources and experiences of our attorneys and staff, rather than expecting everyone to fit a cookie-cutter mold. We aim to foster an environment that enables each of us to be the best professional that we can be given our personal attributes.

#4 CULTURE

Culture · Promote our uniquely supportive and informal environment. We are a group of people who have chosen to work together for the common good of the group and the common goal of building and maintaining a nationally recognized legal practice. We support each other personally and professionally using our individual talents and expertise. We aspire to maintain an informal and collegial culture that emphasizes client results, rather than focusing on hierarchy or bureaucracy.

#5 CHANGE

Change · Change is an opportunity— redefine the possible. When the playing field shifts, opportunities are created for our clients. Our 360 degree field of vision in the areas in which we practice enables us to recognize these opportunities and assist our clients to take advantage of them. As a result of changes in the law and the structure of markets, client objectives that previously may not have been possible may be obtainable in the future. We strive to have the foresight to enable our clients to utilize change to achieve their goals.