

JOSH ROSS

STOLL BERNE

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Before becoming a lawyer, Josh Ross lived in Jerusalem, Israel, where he attended university, served in the Israel Defense Force's Paratroopers Brigade, and worked as a chef's assistant in a Moroccan restaurant.

The Texas native began his legal career as a clerk for Oregon Court of Appeals Judge Rick Haselton. Ross joined Stoll Berne in 2005 and specializes in complex business matters, consumer law and securities issues.

Among his cases, Ross has represented many individual clients harmed by securities fraud, professional malpractice and breach of contract, said Steve Larson, a shareholder at Stoll Berne.

"Josh is the kind of lawyer who puts his whole self into his career, investing a great deal of energy both professionally and personally," Larson said. "This is reflected in the way his colleagues trust and value his judgment, and in the way he freely gives of his time to community and charitable organizations."

Ross is a volunteer attorney for Legal Aid Services of Oregon's Domestic Violence project. Since 2006, he has served on the Multnomah Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section and helped form an alliance with the City of Portland to coordinate the "9th Grade Matters" Youth Corps program. Ross received the MBA's 2010 Young Lawyers Award of Merit for his public service and pro bono work.

What was the worst U.S. Supreme Court opinion of all time?

Worst in recent times is easy: *Bush v. Gore*.

What is the best part of being an attorney?

Helping people. It sounds cliché, but it's the truth. I am in this business because I enjoy helping clients figure out the best way to deal with their problems.

What is the toughest part of being an attorney?

Finding balance. Lawyers give a lot of lip service to "work-life balance," but I hope to someday figure it out. It's been a challenge so far.

How has the reality of a legal career differed from what you anticipated when you first started law school?

The system is, for better or for worse, much slower than I anticipated. In law school we read neatly packaged cases that presented the problems, the issues, and (sometimes) the answers. It is never that simple, and the little battles and long delays are often difficult to deal with.

If you hadn't become an attorney, what career would you have pursued?

In high school I wanted to be a radio disc jockey. Or a professional wrestler.

How would your mother describe you in one word?

Toofaraway.

If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

More self control to help me just say no to that last piece of bacon.

What is the first concert you went to?

The Police, Synchronicity tour, 1983.

What was your favorite pet's name?

Sukkah (There's a story there, having to do with a Jewish holiday, a similar sounding Russian word, and a bunch of giggly third graders).

Which living person do you most admire?

My wife.

What was your first car?

1979 Mustang Hatchback

Finish this sentence: Happiness is ...

Hearing my kids running towards the door when I get home at night.

What is your motto?

I try to avoid mottos – they feel confining.

You've been given the chance to spend part of your time as a superhero. Who are you and what is your super power?

Wow. Well, I think it would be neat (and very helpful) to be able to see into the future and predict the outcome of my cases.

Tell us something about yourself that might surprise most people.

I spent two years as a soldier in the Israeli Paratroopers.