

Cody Berne

Attorney

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Cody Berne is an advocate for his clients in cases large and small. He is prepared to go to trial if that is what the case requires. Cody has been first chair at over 40 trials. He leads Stoll Berne's team in the class action lawsuit against PacifiCorp for starting fires across Oregon during the Labor Day 2020 storm. He was co-lead trial counsel in an 8-week trial where the jury found PacifiCorp liable to a class of several thousand people for gross negligence, punitive damages, and other claims. The jury awarded on average approximately \$5 million to each of the 17-named plaintiffs. He was also co-lead trial counsel in the first and second damages-only jury trials on behalf of 19 more class members. The juries awarded several million dollars per person. The trials and litigation, including the work by Cody and his colleagues at Stoll Berne, have been featured in national and local news, including NPR, the Washington Post, Oregonlive, the New York Times, Bloomberg, Reuters, and the AP.

Along with representing wildfire survivors and their families, Cody advises investors who lost money because of fraud and other misconduct and plaintiffs in class actions. His class action experience includes securities, consumer, ERISA, food labeling, and fire cases. Cody's practice also includes commercial and complex litigation.

He is an active member of the Oregon Trial Lawyers Association. Cody previously worked as a deputy district attorney at the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office. Before that, Cody represented individuals and businesses in cases involving investment fraud and a wide range of business disputes at a large Northwest firm.

He received the Haglund Award in 2016 from the Multnomah Bar Association. He was selected as a Future Star in Benchmark Litigation and also named in The Best Lawyers in America and Oregon Super Lawyers.

During law school, Cody interned for U.S. District Court Judge Kimberly Mueller and U.S. Magistrate Judge Carolyn Delaney. Elected to Order of the Coif, he received the Clinical Legal Education Association Award and a Witkin Award. Cody also represented clients as a law student at the Civil Rights Clinic and Prison Law Clinic and earned a Public Service Certificate.

Before law school, Cody served as a police officer with the Portland Police Bureau and as a wildland firefighter across the West.

[Investor Blog](#)

EDUCATION

UC Davis School of Law, J.D., Order of the Coif, 2014

Pomona College, B.A., Politics, 2003

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE

Oregon State Bar, 2014
U.S. District Court, Oregon
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Stoll Berne

Shareholder, 2022-present
Associate, 2017-2022

Multnomah County District Attorney

Deputy District Attorney, 2016-2017

Miller Nash Graham & Dunn LLP

Associate, 2014-2016

Hon. Kimberly Mueller (U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California)

Intern, 2012

Hon. Carolyn Delaney (U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California)

Intern, 2012

Portland Police Bureau

Police Officer, 2005-2011

Diamond Mountain Interagency Hotshots

Wildland Firefighter, 2004

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

FINRA

Arbitrator, 2020-present

Legal Aid Services of Oregon

Volunteer, Domestic Violence Project, 2015-2016

National Futures Association (NFA)

Arbitrator, 2021-present

Oregon State Bar

Antitrust Section, Member, 2019-present

Elder Law Section, Member, 2022-present

House of Delegates, Member, 2024

Securities Regulation Section, Member, 2017-present; Executive Committee, 2021-present

Oregon Trial Lawyers Association

Board of Governors, 2024-present

Business Litigation Section, Co-Chair, 2021-2024

Consumer Law Section Member, 2018-present

Legislative Committee Member, 2020-present

Public Investors Advocate Bar Association (PIABA)

Past Member

Rule Advisory Committee, Oregon Division of Financial Regulation

Member, 2022

PUBLICATIONS

[“Investor Blog,”](#) *Stoll Berne*, 2020-present

[“Motions in Large Trials,”](#) co-author, *Trial Lawyer Magazine*, Winter 2024

[“Clients Who Rely on Third Parties Risk Waiving Attorney-Client Privilege,”](#) author, *Oregon State Bar Litigation Journal*, Summer 2021

[“Costs, Disbursements, and Attorney Fees,”](#) author, *Oregon Civil Pleading and Litigation*, 2020

[“After the Supreme Court’s Decision in *China Agritech*, a Plaintiff Who Seeks to Represent a Class Should Not Wait to File,”](#) *Oregon State Bar Litigation Journal*, Summer 2020

[“Common Claims of Oregon Investors Who Are the Victims of Fraud or Other Financial Misconduct,”](#) *Stoll Berne*, January 2019

[“Contracts for the Sale of Goods,”](#) co-author, OSB Legal Publications CLE, *Damages*, 2016

[“Don’t Take Your Guns to Town,”](#) *Oregon State Bar Bulletin*, October 2015

[“Liabilities under State Statutory and Common Law: Blue Sky Laws,”](#) 2014 *Broker-Dealer Litigation Annual Survey*, Securities Litigation Committee of the America Bar Association

PRESENTATIONS

[“Faculty, Plaintiffs Trial Skills College,”](#) Lewis & Clark Advocacy Center and Oregon State Bar Litigation Section (January 2025)

[“Class actions and mass actions panelist discussion,”](#) University of Oregon School of Law Torts class (October 2024)

[“Episode 173: Cody Berne / Jeanyne James, et al. v. PacifiCorp, et al. / \\$84 million,”](#) Great Trials Podcast (August 2024), link: [Episode 173: Cody Berne | Jeanyne James, et al. v. PacifiCorp, et al. | \\$84 million — Great Trials Podcast](#)

[“Trying a Case on Damages Alone,”](#) SeminarWeb National Presentation (June 2024)

[“Who/How You Gonna Blame? Strategies for Damages Only Trials,”](#) Oregon Trial Lawyers Association (May 2024)

[“Wildfire Class Actions – Recent Developments and Trends,”](#) The National Wildland Fire Conference (April 2024)

[“Trials in Aggregate Litigation,”](#) Cornell Law School Complex Litigation Course (March 2024)

[“Trial Skills, Framing Your Case,”](#) Lewis & Clark Law School Trial Advocacy Course (November 2023)

[“Getting a Big Victory Against PacifiCorp,”](#) Trial Lawyers University (August 2023)

[“James et al v. PacifiCorp et al – Lessons from Phase 1 Trial,”](#) Oregon Trial Lawyers Association (August 2023)

[“Investment Deals and Investor Litigation: A Conversation Between a Business Lawyer and a Litigator About Practicing Securities Law,”](#) Multnomah Bar Association (March 2023)

[“Red Flags in Investor Deals and for the Investors in Them,”](#) Oregon State Bar Securities Regulation Section (December 2022)

[“One Defendant, Two Cases: A Guide to Consumer Class Action Litigation Through a State and Federal Case Against Ruby Receptionists,”](#) Oregon Trial Lawyers Association Consumer Protection Section (February 2022)

[“How DMMs Can Help Clients and Lawyers Successfully Prosecute an Investor Fraud Case,”](#) American Association of Daily Money Managers (October 2021)

[“How Plaintiff’s Lawyers Evaluate an Investor Fraud Case,”](#) Deschutes County Bar Association CLE, Bend, Oregon (March 2019)

AWARDS

Benchmark Litigation

2025, Litigation Star
2023-2024, Future Star

Multnomah Bar Association

Haglund Award, 2016

Oregon Super Lawyers

2023-2024, Rising Stars

The Best Lawyers in America®

2025 Lawyer of the Year in Litigation – Securities, in Portland
2020-2024