

# PAUL WATKINS

(b)(6)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### ARIZONA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

PHOENIX, AZ

*Chief Counsel, Civil Litigation Division*

*January 2015 – July 2018*

- Lead 150-person division responsible for civil rights, consumer protection, antitrust, environmental, federalism, government accountability, bankruptcy, collections, and general civil litigation.
- Created government accountability unit and installed new leadership teams in consumer protection, collections, and civil rights.
- Drafted legislation creating the first FinTech regulatory sandbox in the United States.
- Drafted crowdfunding/initial coin offering legislation making the Arizona House of Representatives the second elected body in the world to recognize a distinction between a utility and security token.
- Led more than 10 state coalitions opposing class action settlements pursuant to the Class Action Fairness Act in a legal strategy later adopted by the United States Department of Justice.
- Negotiated \$40 million settlement with Volkswagen and \$7.2 million settlement with General Motors, which were the only Attorney General settlements at the time against either company with consumer restitution.
- Negotiated \$4.8 million settlement with Theranos, providing full refunds for all Arizona consumers.
- Successfully argued in state Supreme Court to defend a novel law that removed shared revenue from political subdivisions for enacting ordinances conflicting with state law on matters of statewide concern.
- Sued state-wide elected official for violating conflict of interest law, causing official's resignation.
- Intervened in, consolidated, and successfully dismissed over 1,000 frivolous ADA lawsuits.

### ALLIANCE DEFENDING FREEDOM

SCOTTSDALE, AZ

*Senior Legal Counsel*

*2012 – 2015*

### PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

MALIBU, CA

*Nootbaar Research Fellow*

*2011 – 2012*

### COVINGTON & BURLING LLP

SAN FRANCISCO, CA

*Securities Litigation Associate*

*2008 – 2011*

### JUDGE DENNIS W. SHEDD, FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

COLUMBIA, SC

*Clerk*

*2007 – 2008*

### SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT LLP

PALO ALTO, CA

*Corporate Associate*

*2006 – 2007*

## EDUCATION

### HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

CAMBRIDGE, MA

J.D.

*2006*

### HILLSDALE COLLEGE

HILLSDALE, MI

B.A. in Political Philosophy, *valedictorian*

*2003*