



L. Bradfield Hughes

partner

Brad represents clients in a variety of litigation contexts, including appeals, original actions and commercial litigation. He co-chairs the firm's Appellate Practice Group and is an active member of the Energy Practice Group. Brad is co-editor of the firm's *Ohio Appellate Insights* blog.

Brad assists utilities, oil and gas companies, and other entities in appeals before the Supreme Court of Ohio and in matters before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) and the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB). He serves as outside counsel for utility transmission affiliates at the OPSB, assisting them with facility installations and upgrades that require certificates of environmental compatibility and public need. Further, Brad has advised wireless telecommunications carriers on new cell site deployment to build out legacy and state-of-the-art wireless technologies. This includes administrative permitting proceedings, zoning and rights-of-way disputes, and litigation in federal courts arising under applicable federal laws.

After graduating from the University of Dayton School of Law, Brad clerked for former Ohio Supreme Court Justice Deborah L. Cook. Due to his clerkship at the Ohio Supreme Court, Brad participates in many of the firm's cases there, assisting co-counsel with jurisdictional memoranda, merit briefs, original actions and preparations for oral argument.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Appellate Practice

- Represented a major commercial development company in an expedited elections case in the Ohio Supreme Court.
- Represented investor-owned utilities in power siting and rate-related appeals to the Ohio Supreme Court.
- Obtained discretionary review in the Ohio Supreme Court and a precedent-setting decision on behalf of a title insurance company in an appeal regarding Ohio's Statute of Frauds.
- Protected an investor-owned utility's critical energy infrastructure information pending appeal to the Ohio Supreme Court.

CONTACT

bhughes@porterwright.com
614.227.2053
www.porterwright.com

Pronouns: he / him / his

41 South High Street
Suites 2800 - 3200
Columbus, OH 43215

SOCIAL MEDIA

Blogs

ohioappeals.com
energylawreport.com
bankingandfinancelawreport.com
employerlawreport.com

EDUCATION

University of Dayton School of Law,
J.D., 1999

Kenyon College, B.A., *summa cum laude*, 1994

SERVICES

Litigation

- Appellate and Supreme Court practice
- E-Discovery
- Commercial litigation
- Regulatory and administrative law

Energy

- Oil and gas
- Utility regulation and power siting

Litigation

- Represented a major U.S. manufacturer in adversary proceedings brought in bankruptcy court.
- Obtained a significant arbitration award on behalf of a pharmaceutical services provider.
- Assisted an investor-owned utility in New Source Review enforcement actions.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio
- Supreme Court of the United States

PRESENTATIONS

- “Putting Politics Aside, Recent Key Decisions from the U.S. Supreme Court and Ohio Supreme Court,” Porter Wright Annual Ethics & Trends in Litigation Seminar, Dec. 4, 2025
- “DEI in the Crosshairs,” Porter Wright Annual Ethics & Trends in Litigation Seminar, Dec. 7, 2023
- “Legislative and Judicial Update,” Central Ohio Association of Corporate Counsel, Jan. 31, 2023
- “The Ohio Supreme Court in 2023,” Porter Wright Annual Ethics & Trends in Litigation Seminar, Dec. 8, 2022
- “Appellate Review: An Informal Discussion with the Hon. Jeffrey Sutton of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit,” Porter Wright Annual Ethics & Trends in Litigation Seminar, Dec. 7, 2017
- “What In-House Counsel Need to Know About Commercial Drones,” Central Ohio Association of Corporate Counsel, Feb. 9, 2017
- “Ohio Supreme Court Review,” Porter Wright Annual Ethics & Trends in Litigation Seminar, December 2009-2016, 2019-2021
- “The ABC’s of Amicus Briefs: What Are They and What They Can Do for Your Organization,” Ohio Society of Association Executives, November 2014

PUBLICATIONS

- “The Ohio Supreme Court in 2025: A focus on civil procedure,” *Law360*, Dec. 4, 2025
- “Ohio’s new citation rules could cure ‘The Bluebook Blues,’” *Law360*, Aug. 15, 2024
- “A ‘Chevron’ death would open new paths for business strategy,” *Bloomberg Law*, Feb. 15, 2024
- “Ohio rulings are cautionary tales for attorneys in crisis,” *Law360*, Aug. 14, 2023
- “Drone regulation: Federal, state and local efforts to eyeball those eyes in the sky,” *Infrastructure*, American Bar Association Section of Public Utility, Communications and Transportation Law, Winter 2016

SERVICES (CONTINUED)

Government & Regulatory Affairs

- Regulatory advocacy

Wireless & Telecommunications

- Infrastructure siting and permitting
- Administrative appeals

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Columbus Bar Association
 - Energy Law Committee, 2018-present
- Ohio State Bar Association
- Defense Research Institute, Appellate Advocacy Committee

HONORS | AWARDS

- Ohio State Bar Association, Best Brief Award for “Best Private Briefs,” April 2018
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®
- Ohio Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Edition

COMMUNITY

- Ohioana Library Association, Board of Trustees, 2010-2016, 2023-2025
 - Board President, 2025