The following section features attorneys who have demonstrated leadership qualities and have achieved the AV Preeminent rating by Martindale-Hubbell®.

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Appellate Law

Ohio

Cincinnati

Judge Mark P. Painter (Retired)

Retired Judge Mark P. Painter served for 30 years (1982–2012). He is now available to review, edit, and improve your briefs and motions. Your writing will be shorter, more readable, and even look better.

- Judge, United Nations Appeals Tribunal, 2009–2012
- Judge, Ohio Court of Appeals, 1995–2009
- Judge, Hamilton County Municipal Court, 1982–1995
- Adjunct Professor, University of Cincinnati College of Law, 1990–2010
- Of Counsel, MANLEY BURKE LPA, 2012–

Painter is one of the most prominent experts on plain English legal writing. His book on plain writing, The Legal Writer: 30 Rules for the Art of Legal Writing, came out in 2002. The Legal Writer: 40 Rules for the Art of Legal Writing was published in 2003, and the 5th edition will arrive in 2016.

For 20 years, he was the author of Ohio Driving Under the Influence Law, the only textbook on DUI in Ohio. He is coauthor of another legal treatise, Ohio Appellate Practice. He has written four law review articles, 145 articles for other journals, and a biography, William Howard Taft: President and Chief Justice. Write Well: 25 Rules to Improve Your Business and Professional Writing was published in 2007.

As an Adjunct Professor of Law at the U.C. College of Law for 20 years, Painter taught agency and partnership for 13 years and advanced legal writing for 7 years. He has lectured at more than 260 seminars for the Ohio Judicial College, the Ohio State Bar Association, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, and countless firms and bar associations nationwide. In 2008, he traveled to Malaysia as one of four international experts on plain-language writing.

225 West Court Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
p. 513.721.5525
painter@manleyburke.com
www.manleyburke.com www.jugpainter.org
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**Appellate Law**

Phil Talmadge

Phil Talmadge is a National Merit scholar, with a B.A. (magna cum laude) from Yale and a J.D. from the University of Washington where he was an editor of its Law Review.


Admitted to practice in Washington’s state and federal courts, the Ninth and Federal Circuit Courts of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court, Phil has argued hundreds of state and federal appellate cases in his career.

Phil has taught appellate advocacy at the Seattle University and University of Washington Law Schools. He is the author of numerous law review articles on wide-ranging legal issues, and is a contributor to the Washington Appellate Practice Deskbook. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, and a member of the Washington Appellate Lawyers Association, an association whose membership is limited to active Washington appellate practitioners.

**Litigation**

A. J. Yolofsky

The firm’s founder, A. J. Yolofsky developed a three-part “maneuver” strategy to effectively and efficiently reach client goals. “Our maneuver concept employs strategy and tactics to put the opposition into the ‘horns of a dilemma,’ forcing them to operate reactively to the tempo we set.” A. J. Yolofsky combines more than twenty years of business, legal, and military experience to give clients the highest level of advice and counsel in business matters across the globe. By applying the principles of “maneuver litigation,” which are based on the teachings of the Chinese master of strategy, Sun Tzu, the firm works to place the adversary into a position where they give up the fight. Our experience includes litigation in state and federal courts and before arbitral panels.

**The Hunt Law Group, LLC**

Brian Hunt

Briam Hunt is a trial lawyer with over twenty-five years’ experience in civil litigation. Mr. Hunt is the managing principal of The Hunt Law Group, LLC, which was founded on the premise that – whatever the type of case – trial skills matter. We have the results to prove it. Our core philosophy is that trial-readiness achieves the best results, irrespective of whether the case does proceed to trial. Our practice encompasses: business litigation and the defense of corporations and individuals in the areas of tort and product defense, premises liability, professional liability litigation, construction liability, transportation and insurance coverage disputes. We represent the complex business concerns of sophisticated clients, especially when they need to communicate with a jury. THLG – Trial lawyers for business people.

The Hunt Law Group, LLC

20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 1711, Chicago, IL 60606
p: 312.384.2300, f: 312.443.9391
www.hunt-lawgroup.com

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