



Civil Rights and Constitutional Litigation

Hinshaw's Civil Rights and Constitutional Litigation Practice is home to former U.S. Attorneys, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, state prosecutors, and legal counsel to state and local agencies. Additionally, several Hinshaw attorneys currently serve as special civil litigation counsel to state attorney's general and local prosecutors in defending civil rights and tort claims brought against governmental entities, departments and officers. In addition to our many legal skills in this area, we are also active in our local communities and statewide organizations. We therefore in many cases know the key governmental decision makers involved in the matters affecting our clients, which adds much value for our clients.

We regularly appear in state and federal court, as well as administrative tribunals, such as the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and state departments of human rights. In doing so, we represent businesses, professionals and other individuals, and state and local public bodies and officials who are defendants in claims involving alleged violations brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and other federal and state civil rights statutes.

We also provide legal assistance to business entities and individuals in diverse regulatory matters. This includes representing parties in professional licensing and disciplinary actions and appearing before boards and commissions that regulate gaming, health care, insurance, transportation, and intrastate and interstate commerce.

Finally, we counsel governmental entities and universities as outside counsel involving: air and ground transportation, data retention practices, employee discipline, freedom of information, open meetings, public contracting (awarding and bidding of contracts), records retention and telecommunications, among many other issues.

News

[Hinshaw Partner Vincent Rizzo Named to 2022 Chicago Daily Law Bulletin 40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch](#)
November 3, 2022

[Hinshaw Announces Selection of Vincent Rizzo and Jessica Turner to 2022 Fellowship Class and Pathfinder Program of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity](#)
March 23, 2022

Attorneys

[V. Brette Bensinger](#)
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[Michael F. Iasparro](#)
[James M. Lydon](#)
[Stephen Mehr](#)
[Christian J. Michalik](#)
[Danielle Mikhail](#)
[Steven M. Puiszis](#)
[Vincent M. Rizzo](#)
[Charles R. Schmadeke](#)
[Robert T. Shannon](#)
[Michael C. Stephenson](#)
[David Vogt](#)

Related Services

[Government](#)
[Government Contracts and Procurement](#)
[Municipal and Licensing](#)



[Hinshaw Partner Gretchen Harris Sperry Named to Crain's Chicago Business' 2021 Notable Gen X Leaders](#)
November 22, 2021

[Hinshaw Partner Adam Guetzow Named to Chicago Daily Law Bulletin's 40 Illinois Attorneys Under 40 to Watch](#)
September 14, 2021

[Hinshaw Partner Vincent Rizzo Named to Crain's Chicago Business' Notable LGBTQ Executives](#)
August 9, 2021

[Robert Shannon Discusses Cook County Jail COVID-19 Lawsuit on Chicago Tonight](#)
July 28, 2020

[Gretchen Sperry Previews Oral Argument in SCOTUS Review of CFPB's Constitutionality](#)
March 9, 2020

[Hinshaw Bolsters Government and Administrative Affairs Practice with Seasoned Litigator in Chicago](#)
February 26, 2020

[Hinshaw's Vincent Rizzo Appointed as Secretary of the LAGBAC Executive Board](#)
October 23, 2019

[Hinshaw's Vincent Rizzo Profiled in Law360 Diversity Snapshot Series](#)
July 11, 2019

[Client Success: Illinois Restaurant Association Helps Defend City of Chicago Food Truck Ordinance against Constitutional Challenge](#)
May 28, 2019

[Hinshaw Legal Team Prevails on Behalf of Prosecutors in Lawsuit Brought by Ex-Aide to Governor Scott Walker](#)
August 30, 2017

[Hinshaw Obtains Defense Verdict for Jail Staff in Section 1983 Case](#)
September 22, 2015

[Steven Puiszis Co-Authors Report, "The Economics of Justice"](#)
July 23, 2014
Chicago Daily Law Bulletin

[Steven Puiszis to Weigh in on the Crisis in the State Judicial System on VoiceAmerica](#)
October 7, 2013

Events

[The Gaysayers? Recent Anti-LGBTQ+ and Other Social Legislation](#)
Wednesday, May 11 | 11:00 a.m. PST | 1:00 p.m. CST | 2:00 p.m. EST
New York, Chicago, Virtual

[LGBTQ+ Youth and Bullying: Understanding Issues and Addressing Solutions](#)
Wednesday, October 13, 2021 | 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Central
Webinar

[National Webinar - Conducting Title IX Investigations](#)
November 11, 2014
National Webinar

[Appleton Lunch and Learn Series - Conducting Title IX Investigations](#)
September 24, 2014
Appleton, Wisconsin