



## Ross Van Ness

Partner

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Ross Van Ness is a seasoned civil litigator with experience in state and federal courts across Oregon and Washington. He has successfully defended claims involving significant personal injury and property damage, as well as professional liability claims and claims related to construction disputes. Ross also regularly advises businesses regarding claims related to cannabis sales and operations.

### **Complex Tort & General Casualty**

Ross handles pre-suit and litigation matters for complex and catastrophic claims involving trucking accidents, property damage, premises liability and other general liability claims. He understands that clients prefer quick and cost-effective solutions to complex and potentially protracted liability cases, and does his best to accelerate turnaround through procedural dismissals, substantive dismissals, successful tenders and negotiated settlements.

### **Construction**

Ross actively defends construction professionals, contractors and subcontractors in construction litigation including matters involving contract disputes and allegations of construction defect. He represents those directly involved in these disputes as well as their insurers and sureties, including owner-controlled and contractor-controlled wrap-up insurance programs.

### **Cannabis Law**

Ross advises insurers and business owners within the legalized cannabis industry on the rapidly evolving state and federal regulatory landscape. He has the experience to tackle the legal issues of greatest importance in this space, such as corporate formation and governance, commercial transactions, product liability, professional liability, labor and employment, intellectual property, licensing and regulatory issues, tax assistance and insurance coverage analysis.

### **Services**

- Complex Tort & General Casualty
- Construction
- Cannabis Law
- Product Liability, Prevention & Government Compliance
- Professional Liability & Services

**Product Liability**

Ross defends manufacturers, distributors and retailers in complex product liability litigation against allegations of defective product design, defective manufacturing, inadequate warnings and strict liability. He works closely with clients to identify potential risks involved in product use and addresses product safety and liability prevention issues as they arise. When needed, Ross taps into Wilson Elser's practice network, among the largest and most diversified in the United States, with more than 250 seasoned litigation attorneys across a national network of strategically located offices.

**Education**

- Lewis & Clark Law School (J.D., 2017)
- University of California, Santa Barbara (B.A. History, 2006)

**Bar Admissions**

- Oregon
- Washington

**Court Admissions**

- U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Oregon