

Paul C. Burke Awarded - Utah State Bar Lawyer of the Year

The Utah State Bar has named Paul C. Burke, a shareholder (equity partner), director, and the general counsel of Ray Quinney & Nebeker, as the **2019 Lawyer of the Year**. Upon news of this honor, the Firm's Managing Partner, Arthur B. Berger said, "Paul is deserving of this significant award in every respect. We are proud to call him our colleague and partner."

Mr. Burke will formally accept the award on July 20th at the Utah State Bar's Summer Convention. The Lawyer of the Year Award is presented to a Utah State Bar member who, over a long and distinguished legal career, has by his or her ethical and personal conduct, commitment and activities, exemplified for their fellow attorneys the epitome of professionalism; and who has also rendered extraordinary contributions to the programs and activities of the Utah State Bar.

Mr. Burke becomes the third RQN attorney in the award's 48 year history to be recognized as the Utah State Bar's Lawyer of the Year. He follows in the footsteps of Stephen B. Nebeker and James S. Jardine.

Mr. Burke maintains a broad civil litigation practice with an emphasis in the realm of labor and employment law. He also advises other law firms on professional ethics and risk management and he defends lawyers accused of ethical misconduct or malpractice. In his capacity as the Firm's general counsel, Mr. Burke provides legal advice to the Firm's management and coordinates the Firm's legal affairs.

A native Utahn, Mr. Burke was raised in Salt Lake City and graduated from Judge Memorial High School. He attended the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts and Mansfield College at Oxford University. He is a graduate of the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah where he received the 1997 Outstanding Achievement Award in Trial Advocacy. Mr. Burke first joined Ray Quinney & Nebeker as a law clerk in 1995. He became an associate attorney in 1997, was elected partner in 2003, and was appointed to serve as the Firm's first-ever general counsel in 2007.

The Utah State Bar previously recognized Mr. Burke in 2012 as the "Pro Bono Attorney of the Year" for his service to the public and the legal community. Mr. Burke has provided *pro bono* services to a wide variety of community organizations and has advocated on behalf of military families, LGBT families, religious minorities, Dreamers, cyclists, and crime victims. His work defending the rights of an abused lesbian teenager was chronicled in both the book "Saving Alex" and a forthcoming Lifetime movie based on that title. Mr. Burke was recognized in 2015 as a "Utah Hero" for his public advocacy on behalf of Utah's LGBT citizens and is a member of the Board of Directors of Equality Utah.

Mr. Burke also served as the president of the Utah Youth Soccer Association from 2003 to 2005 and as the Chairman of the Rules Committee for the U.S. Soccer Federation from 2006 to 2018. In 2003, he was the co-chairman of the successful campaign for Salt Lake City Proposition No. 5, which authorized the development and construction of the Salt Lake Regional Athletic Complex, a 140 acre facility with 16 soccer/multipurpose fields. Mr. Burke currently serves as an independent director of the Utah Soccer Association and as the Chairman of the Professional League Standards Task Force of the U.S. Soccer Federation. Mr. Burke was inducted into the Utah Youth Soccer Hall of Fame in 2016.

Mr. Burke has served for more than a decade as a member and currently chairs the Utah Supreme Court's Advisory Committee on the Rules of Appellate Procedure. From 2017 to 2019 Mr. Burke also served on a subcommittee that developed a reciprocal admissions rule for the benefit of military families. Mr. Burke and his colleagues have also been frequent contributors to the Salt Lake Tribune of columns on legal issues.

When asked about receiving the Lawyer of the Year award, Mr. Burke said, "Practicing law requires teamwork and no lawyer at Ray Quinney & Nebeker practices alone. All of the work cited to justify this recognition was done with the support of the Firm and significant contributions from many present and past RQN lawyers, paralegals, and staff. I am grateful that the Firm and its leadership over more than two decades has provided and afforded me opportunities to be involved with interesting, challenging, and meaningful cases on behalf of our clientele. I am thankful for the many mentors, partners, colleagues, clients, and friends who have enriched my life and shaped my career."

As a full-service law firm, Ray Quinney & Nebeker provides personalized service and strategic planning to businesses and individuals in virtually all areas of law. For further information, see www.rqn.com or call (801) 532-1500.