



Media and First Amendment

Parr Brown counsels television and radio stations, newspapers, magazines and online content providers on defamation, privacy, newsgathering, access, copyright and related newsroom issues.

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- [*Unconstitutional Ban on E-Signatures Prompts ACLU of Utah Lawsuit*](#)
- [*Cautious tone in first GRAMA working group meeting*](#)

Contact A Leading Media and First Amendment Attorney

We're looking forward to helping you resolve any aspect of your media legal needs. For immediate assistance or more information regarding your legal concerns, complete this form or reach out to any of the experienced media and first amendment lawyers shown below today.

Representative Matters

Represented the Salt Lake Tribune, Deseret News, and the Utah Society of Professional Journalists in successfully seeking access to several sealed search warrant records in the case of two high-profile capital murder defendants accused of killing a deputy sheriff, *State v. Ruben Chavez-Reyes and Roberto Miramontes Roman* (Utah County, Utah).

Represented Deseret Digital Media in a large defamation action brought in federal court by a former contractor against a municipal group called UTOPIA, which was formed to create a fiber-optic network for various local towns. The claims

arose from an article that was penned under a secret pseudonym by Mayor Winder of West Valley City. The plaintiff sued Parr Brown's client and a number of other defendants, claiming damages in the millions of dollars. Parr Brown took the lead on briefing the defamation-related issues in a motion for judgment on the pleadings. Chief Judge Ted Stewart granted the motion and dismissed the case.

Represented the Salt Lake Tribune, Deseret News, and the Utah Society of Professional Journalists in successfully seeking access to several sealed search warrant records in the case of two high-profile capital murder defendants accused of killing a deputy sheriff, *State v. Ruben Chavez-Reyes and Roberto Miramontes Roman* (Utah County, Utah)

Successfully defended the Logan Herald Journal in a defamation and invasion of privacy suit arising out of the mistaken publication of a mug shot. Parr Brown won dismissal of all claims. (*Leishman v. Cache Valley Publishing*)

Represented the Utah Media Coalition in leading the fight against H.B. 477, a bill that would have crippled the Utah open records statute, the Government Records Access and Management Act ("GRAMA"). After initially passing the bill, the Utah Legislature did an about-face and repealed the law in a special session.

Represented the Salt Lake Tribune, Deseret News and the Utah Society of Professional Journalists in obtaining public disclosure of court records in a high-profile capital murder case, *State v. Allgier*. The Utah Supreme Court unanimously affirmed the ruling.
