

Appellate

The Appellate Practice Group prides itself on the thoroughness of its legal research and review of the record, the depth of its analysis, and the clarity of its written work. Our advocates, who have appeared in appellate courts at federal and state levels, master the facts and law and apply both to maximize the client's position.

We understand that the task of the appellate lawyer is to identify the central organizing principle that demonstrates the correctness of the client's position and then to support that position with mastery of the record, thorough research, persuasive writing, and oral advocacy that addresses the court's concerns. We appreciate the challenges on both sides. The appellant must be mindful that a trial court's factual findings are reviewed with deference. Appellant's counsel cannot simply re-argue the same ground but must identify the key points vulnerable to reversal. For the respondent, the task is not merely passive defense. Respondent's counsel must objectively assess the appellant's perspective, respond to the appellant's approach, and present the respondent's most persuasive arguments.

The Sills Cummis & Gross Appellate Practice Group takes seriously its approach to appellate advocacy. We approach each appeal in an organized fashion that unifies the reasons why justice, law, and public policy require a favorable result for our clients.