

Philip J. Novak III

Associate

(405) 766-3718 | pj.novak@mcafeetaft.com

Oklahoma City



Overview

PJ Novak is a civil litigator and former federal law clerk who represents businesses and individuals in a variety of civil disputes. His practice focuses on commercial litigation, business disputes, and matters involving complex issues of federal and state law. Drawing on his experience in federal court, PJ assists clients through all stages of litigation.

Prior to joining McAfee & Taft, PJ served as a law clerk to the Honorable Ronald C. Griffin of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas. He leverages his clerkship experience to help clients navigate the intricacies of federal practice and procedure.

PJ earned his Juris Doctor from Oklahoma City University School of Law, where he graduated in the top of his class, served on the Board of Editors for the *Oklahoma City University Law Review* and as president of the Federal Bar Association, competed in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, and served as a Civil Procedure Academic Fellow to Professor Michael P. O'Shea. He was also the recipient of the *OCU Law Review's* Managing Editor Award, was named to the Order of the Barristers and Phi Delta Phi legal honor society, and earned CALI Awards for academic excellence in Criminal Procedure, Criminal Law, International Law, Trial Practice, and Law Practice Technology. While pursuing his law degree, PJ served as a summer associate with McAfee & Taft and worked in the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office.

PJ also holds an undergraduate degree in political science and history from the University of Oklahoma in 2021.

Outside of his practice, PJ enjoys running, exploring Oklahoma City's restaurant scene, and cheering on the Oklahoma City Thunder and Oklahoma Sooners.

Admissions

Oklahoma, 2025

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas

Education

J.D., *summa cum laude*, Oklahoma City University, 2025

Board of Editors, *Oklahoma City University Law Review*; President, Federal Bar Association; Jessup International Moot Court Team; Order of the Barristers; Phi Delta Phi; 5 CALI Awards; J. William Conger Distinguished Student Award; T. Hurley Jordan Award for Excellence in Criminal Procedure

B.A. (Political Science), University of Oklahoma, 2021

Representative Experience

- *United States v. Menard*, No. ACM 40496, 2025 WL 985360 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Mar. 28, 2025), review granted, No. 25-0173/AF, 2025 WL 2302208 (C.A.A.F. July 8, 2025): Briefed and argued as an amicus advocate in live appeal before the U.S. Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals. The case is currently pending before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, the military's highest court.

Professional Organizations

- Oklahoma County Bar Association (Community Service Committee)
- Oklahoma Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association (Board of Directors, Oklahoma City Chapter)
- William J. Holloway, Jr. American Inn of Court