

## Cole Finegan

Office Managing Partner

Denver

### Biography

Cole Finegan's practice focuses broadly on the intersection of business and government, drawing on his rich background in local and state government.

He works locally and nationally with businesses and government entities to create and expand public-private partnerships. Since 1987, Cole has been involved in almost every major private-public partnership in Denver, including the redevelopment of Stapleton Airport, the Gates Rubber Company facility, and Denver Union Station. He also represents clients in regulatory, land-use and development, and legislative and public policy law.

Prior to joining Hogan Lovells, Cole served in dual positions as Denver's City Attorney and Chief of Staff to Mayor John Hickenlooper. During his tenure as City Attorney, Cole reorganized the office of 100 lawyers for the first time in 20 years, which saved the city more than US\$1 million by cutting outside legal services and expanded the city's capabilities to try its own cases. As Chief of Staff, he led the successful campaign to change Denver's charter to add a Chief Financial Officer and to modernize the city's 100-year-old financial services structure.

Cole served both as Chief Legal Counsel and Director of Policy and Initiatives for Colorado Governor Roy



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### Practices

Administrative and Public Law

Government Contracts

Government Relations and Public Affairs

Infrastructure, Energy, Resources, and Projects

Real Estate

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### Industries

Energy and Natural Resources

Real Estate

Technology & Telecoms

Diversified Industrials

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Romer from 1991 to 1993. During that period, he handled the governor's legal matters, advised the governor on judicial appointments, and supervised a policy development staff of 60 persons working on economic, environmental, health care, energy, telecommunications, transportation, and education policy issues.

Cole also worked in Washington, D.C. as Chief Legislative Assistant and then Chief of Staff to U.S. Representative James R. Jones of Oklahoma. Representative Jones chaired the U.S. House of Representatives' Budget Committee from 1981-1985 and chaired the House Ways and Means' Subcommittee on Trade.

## Awards and rankings

- Municipal Law, *The Best Lawyers in America*, 2010-2019, 2021
- Top Lawyer - Government Relations, Contracts, and Lobbying, *5280*, 2015-2021
- Acritas Star, *Acritas Stars Independently Rated Lawyers*, 2018-2020
- 500 Leading lawyers list, *Lawdragon*, 2017
- Denver Municipal Law, Lawyer of the Year, *The Best Lawyers in America*, 2016
- Colorado Super Lawyers, 2007-2009, 2012-2018
- People's Choice Government Lawyer, *Barrister's Best, Law Week Colorado*, 2009-2017
- Lawyer of the Year, *Law Week Colorado*, 2013
- Lawyer of the Decade, *Law Week Colorado*, 2011
- The 50 Most Influential People in Denver, *5280*, 2010-2011

## Latest thinking and events

- News

## Areas of focus

Tax Legislation and Policy

Privacy and Cybersecurity Public Policy Counseling and Advocacy

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## Education and admissions

### Education

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 1986

B.A., University of Notre Dame, 1978

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## Memberships

Past Board Member, Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce

Past Board Member, Teach for America

Member, Colorado Forum

Past Board Chair, Downtown Denver Partnership

Past Board Member, The Denver Foundation

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## Bar admissions and qualifications

Colorado

District of Columbia (inactive)

Registered Foreign Lawyer, England and Wales

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## Accolades

- COVID-19: Federal Reserve Board to publish CARES Act borrower information. Does more oversight follow?
- Press Releases
  - Hogan Lovells Adds Leading Real Estate Finance Lawyer Ana Tenzer in Denver
- Media Mention
  - Developmental Drivers *Law Week Colorado*
- Media Mention
  - The Therapist Down the Hall *Law Week Colorado*
- Media Mention
  - Colorado "I Have A Dream" Foundation to Celebrate 30-Year Anniversary *Colorado "I Have A Dream" Foundation*
- Published Works
  - Global 20: Hogan Lovells *Law360*

"I instantly felt a sense of trust. We had four great years — he did a great job for us. There is no swagger, no arrogance, but a quiet confidence."

*Governor John Hickenlooper*

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"I think he's got more political wisdom than almost anyone I can think of in Colorado. What I have prized most from him over the years is his judgment and his gentle relentlessness."

*Senator Michael Bennet*

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