

Joseph P. Benkert
Joseph P. Benkert, P.C.
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Education

Joseph P. Benkert attended James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia from 1976 to 1979, graduating *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications and a Minor in Business Administration. Mr. Benkert also served internships in news and production at WHSV-TV, Harrisonburg, Virginia; in engineering at WVPT-TV, Staunton, Virginia; and in news, production, promotion, and announcing at WMRA(FM) Harrisonburg, Virginia. He was a member of both Alpha Epsilon Rho, the National Honorary Broadcasting Society, and the Society for Collegiate Journalists.

Mr. Benkert attended the Syracuse University College of Law, and the the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University, from 1979 to 1981. He graduated *cum laude* with a Juris Doctor degree and a Master of Science in Telecommunications. Mr. Benkert was named to the Justinian Honor Society. He organized and was the first president of the Syracuse University Communications and Law Society, an interdisciplinary association open to students in the College of Law and the School of Public Communications. Mr. Benkert earned his Bachelor's, Master's and Juris Doctor degrees in a total of 5 years.

Law Practice

Mr. Benkert has practiced law since 1982. He formed the firm of Joseph P. Benkert, PC in 1996. Mr. Benkert's primary areas of practice have included the representation of broadcast stations, local exchange carriers, alternative access providers, interexchange carriers, radio common carriers including cellular telephone service providers, radio private carriers, public safety radio licensees, cable television systems, competitive access providers, competitive local exchange carriers, international carriers, satellite carriers, information service providers, and other communications carriers and equipment manufacturers in transactional matters, regulatory matters before the FCC, state public utility commissions and/or in state and federal courts, land use matters, and in commercial litigation, including antitrust litigation. Mr. Benkert represents telecommunications site-owners in land use matters, lease and sale agreements. Mr. Benkert's practice includes representation of clients in corporate and general business matters, complex commercial transactions including mergers and acquisitions, and litigation. Mr. Benkert also represents nonprofit corporations and associations and governmental entities, including public safety agencies and 911 Authorities.

Memberships

Mr. Benkert is a member of the Colorado Bar, and has been admitted to practice before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and the Federal Circuit. He is also a member of the Federal Communications Bar Association and the Colorado Bar Association. He served on the steering committee of the Colorado Telecommuting Advisory Council, and was principally involved in the

formation of the Rocky Mountain Home-Based Business Association, of which he has served as a Director and as General Counsel. He was a founding member of the Communications Law Forum Committee of the Colorado Bar Association. Mr. Benkert also founded and was the initial CEO of the 9-1-1Colorado Foundation (“9-1-1Colorado.Org”), a 501(c)(3) non-profit formed to provide public education regarding 9-1-1 and Emergency Notification Services. Mr. Benkert continues as a Director of the Foundation.

Honors and Awards

In 1994 and 1995, Mr. Benkert served as a “Senior Fellow — Information Law and Policy” at the Center for the New West, an independent, nonprofit and nonpartisan institution for policy research - emphasizing trade, technology and economic development issues. He also served on the Advisory Board of the Center’s Institute for Information Law and Policy. Mr. Benkert is a speaker on telecommunications regulation and legislation, and on emerging telecommunications and information technologies and their potential applications. He has spoken on these topics to meetings of state bar associations, state telecommunications industry associations, national meetings of federal officials, and senior administration officials, and has presented continuing legal education courses on telecommunications law. His article, *Wireless E9-1-1 Update*, appeared in the June 2000 issue Radio Resource Magazine.

Mr. Benkert is a biographee in Marquee’s *Who’s Who in American Law*. He is the recipient of the Rocky Mountain Home-Based Business Association’s 1994 *Outstanding Friend of Home Based Business Award*.