# Poyner Spruill<sup><sup>uv</sup></sup>

# Cosmo Zinkow

# ASSOCIATE

# t: 919.783.2868

Cosmo focuses his practice on business disputes and appeals. Cosmo is also the co-founder of <u>*Project Ethos*</u>—an organization that helps veteran-led startups.



OFFICE LOCATION

301 Fayetteville St., Suite 1900 Raleigh, NC 27601 P.O. Box 1801 Raleigh, NC 27602

#### JURISDICTIONS LICENSED

North Carolina, US District Court for the Eastern District of NC, US District Court for the Middle District of NC, US District Court for the Western District of NC, US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

# BIOGRAPHY

Cosmo's unique background complements his practice. Before pursuing a legal career, Cosmo spent seven years in the United States Marine Corps, which included a deployment to Iraq in 2005. After leaving the military in 2009, Cosmo then spent time in the private sector, serving as the director of technology for multiple companies.

Cosmo now represents businesses, government entities, and individuals in a wide range of civil lawsuits. In recent years, he has handled matters that included:

- as lead counsel, successfully defending a CEO wrongfully accused of embezzling company funds;
- obtaining a multi-million-dollar settlement on behalf of beneficiaries seeking the reimbursement of misappropriated trust assets;
- defending municipalities against numerous constitutional challenges;
- helping secure the release of an individual serving a life sentence that resulted from an unconstitutional police interrogation;

• obtaining a no-liability result in a seven-figure arbitration involving a doctor sued by their prior practice.

Cosmo is also an active member of the firm's appellate team. In that role, he has worked extensively on matters in both state and federal appellate courts. Before the U.S. Supreme Court, he has dealt with issues ranging from billion-dollar tax disputes, challenges to EPA guidance, the recovery of World War II era art, and copyright claims involving Blackbeard's ship. Most recently, Cosmo has worked on appellate matters involving:

- Governmental immunity: <u>appellee brief</u>
- Zoning ordinances: <u>appellant brief</u>; <u>appellee brief</u>; <u>reply brief</u>
- Elections: <u>petition</u>
- Constitutional challenges: <u>appellee brief</u>

AREAS OF FOCUS LITIGATION APPELLATE PRACTICE BUSINESS LITIGATION GOVERNMENT

# CREDENTIALS

# EDUCATION

Campbell University School of Law, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2018 North Carolina Central University, B.S., Criminal Justice, *magna cum laude*, 2014

# NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America® "Ones to Watch" (Appellate Practice) 2023-2025; (Commercial Litigation) 2023-2025 Ranked among *Super Lawyers* magazine's North Carolina "Rising Stars", 2025 Editor in Chief, *Campbell Law Review* North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society, (2019–2021)