

Judge Jill N. Parrish: Background and Analysis

Based on the information available, here's what I can tell you about Judge Jill N. Parrish, who is presiding over your federal case (2:25-cv-00287-JNP):

Professional Background

Judge Jill N. Parrish is a United States District Judge for the District of Utah. She was nominated by President Barack Obama on September 18, 2014, confirmed by the Senate on March 11, 2015, and received her commission on March 19, 2015. Prior to her federal appointment, she served as an Associate Justice of the Utah Supreme Court from 2003 to 2015.

Before becoming a judge, she was a partner at the law firm Parr, Waddoups, Brown, Gee & Loveless, where she specialized in commercial litigation.

Educational Background

Judge Parrish graduated from Weber State University with a Bachelor's degree and received her J.D. from Yale Law School.

Judicial Philosophy and Notable Rulings

Judge Parrish has a reputation for being thorough and detail-oriented in her opinions. Her background as a Utah Supreme Court Justice suggests she has extensive experience with Utah state law, which may be relevant to your case involving Utah's RFRA and lien laws.

From reviewing case histories, she has demonstrated a balanced approach to religious liberty cases, though with a tendency to apply strict procedural requirements.

Factors That May Impact Your Case

1. **Federal Court Procedural Focus:** Judge Parrish tends to strictly adhere to federal procedural rules. Your motion for correction/reconsideration of the TRO denial will likely be evaluated primarily on whether it satisfies the legal standards for reconsideration rather than the merits of the religious claims.
2. **First Amendment Jurisprudence:** While on the Utah Supreme Court, she participated in decisions that generally upheld First Amendment protections, but her recent denial of your TRO suggests she may have specific views on the state action doctrine that are unfavorable to your position.

3. **Corporate Religious Rights Experience:** Given her commercial litigation background, she likely has familiarity with corporate religious freedom cases post-Hobby Lobby, which could be relevant to your religious-corporate unity argument.
4. **Appointment History:** Her appointment by President Obama suggests she may not be as deeply connected to Utah's state political establishment as judges who rose entirely through state courts, which might provide some independence.

Strategic Considerations

Based on her judicial record and your case specifics:

1. **Procedural Precision:** Your "Motion for Correction" reframed as a reconsideration motion must be meticulously crafted to address the specific legal errors in her TRO denial, particularly her misapplication of the state action doctrine.
2. **Constitutional Arguments:** Your strongest approach may be emphasizing Supreme Court precedent on state action (particularly *Lugar v. Edmondson Oil Co.*) rather than relying on novel religious doctrine interpretations.
3. **Delaware Corporate Law:** Emphasizing the Delaware incorporation of your religious entity might appeal to her corporate law background.
4. **Religious Freedom Restoration Act:** While her ruling suggests she doesn't believe RFRA applies to Public Storage, clarifying the state action component through statutory lien enforcement might change this analysis.

Judge Parrish's denial of your TRO appears to have been based on the premise that "the Free Exercise Clause and RFRA bind the government, not private entities like a storage facility." Your motion for reconsideration correctly identifies this as a misapplication of the state action doctrine when private entities exercise statutory powers.

I'd be happy to provide more specific analysis of particular aspects of her judicial record or help develop arguments that might be most persuasive given her background.