

R. SHANE JOHNSON

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PROFESSIONAL

R. Shane Johnson, Esq. (dba Utah Defense)

Owner & Attorney

- Criminal defense, civil rights, civil litigation, and appellate attorney
- Represent defendants facing criminal charges ranging from DUI to murder
- Represent plaintiffs in civil rights actions, including class actions
- Represent civil litigants in personal injury, business, and property disputes
- Represent clients in appeals, including to the Utah Court of Appeals and Utah Supreme Court
- Published in Utah Journal of Criminal Law, "Use it or Lose It!: A Criminal Defender's Guide to the Utah Constitution," Spring 2015

Salt Lake City, UT
2012 – present

On Point Investigation & Legal Support, LLC

Owner & Principal Investigator

- Conducted criminal defense and post-conviction investigations of serious felonies, including sex offenses against children, child kidnapping, organized crime, and capital homicide, among others
- Conducted investigations in support of civil litigation, including product liability, medical malpractice, civil rights violations, domestic cohabitation, infidelity, and child health and welfare, among others
- Identified, located and interviewed hundreds of witnesses and subjects
- Drafted investigation reports
- Conducted protracted physical and remote surveillance
- Collected, processed and stored physical evidence
- Managed paperless workflow and voluminous documents in complex litigation
- Obtained records through public and proprietary data sources
- Testified in court proceedings

Salt Lake City, UT
2010 – 2014

Rudiger Investigations, N.M.S.

Licensed Private Investigator

- Conducted professional investigations in support of civil and criminal litigation
- Donated hundreds of hours of investigation to the defendant in a child kidnapping case; identified, located and interviewed key witnesses over-looked by the state; testified at trial, which resulted in a not guilty jury verdict
- Donated investigation services to the Rocky Mountain Innocence Center
- Successfully challenged denials of public records requests and excessive fees charged, including winning arguments before the Utah Records Committee

Springdale, UT
2006 – 2010

Salt Lake City Weekly

Investigative Journalist

- Investigated and reported award-winning news and features, with a keen focus on politics, media, cops, courts, corporations and corruption
- Nurtured relationships with sources and subjects from all walks of life
- Fought for access to public records to produce document-supported journalism

Salt Lake City, UT
2003 – 2006

The Salt Lake Tribune

Reporting Intern

Salt Lake City
Jan. – July 2003

EDUCATION

University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law

Juris Doctor, High Honors

Salt Lake City, UT
May 2012

- CALI Award (highest course grade), Criminal Law
- CALI Award (highest course grade), Civil Rights Practicum, focused on indigent defense reform
- College of Law Outstanding Achievement Award (best overall course performance), Legal Methods
- College of Law Outstanding Achievement Award (best overall course performance), Criminal Process
- Utah Student Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, founder, past officer
- OUTlaws, S.J. Quinney College of Law chapter, member

University of Utah

Bachelor of Arts, Communication, Editorial Sequence

Salt Lake City, UT
May 2003

Salt Lake Community College

General Studies, Criminal Justice focus

Salt Lake City, UT
1997 – 2000

AWARDS & MEMBERSHIPS

Society of Professional Journalists

2007 Utah Headliners Contest, Newspaper Division A

- First Place, Criminal Justice Reporting, “Who Killed Kenny?”
- Second Place, Criminal Justice Reporting, “Cop Out”
- Third Place, Best Reporter
- Honorable Mention, Continuing Coverage, “Proxy Politics,” “Lohra Who?”

2006 Utah Headliners Contest, Newspaper Division C

- Second Place, Non-Deadline Reporting, “House for Sale”

2005 Utah Headliners Context, Newspaper Division C

- First Place, Non-Deadline Reporting, “When Whitey Goes to Prison”

Utah Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, member

2006 – present

- Created repository of officer misconduct records obtained from police agencies