

# Ryan Fairchild

Associate



## PRACTICE AREAS

Business and Corporate  
Entertainment  
› Esports  
International & Cross Border  
Latin America  
Litigation  
› Complex Business Litigation  
› Federal Litigation

## EDUCATION

University of North Carolina School of Law  
J.D., 2014, with honors; Staff member, *North Carolina Law Review*; Article and Note Editor, *First Amendment Law Review*  
Brigham Young University  
B.A., 2010; Writer, *The BYU Political Review*

## CLERKSHIP

Law Clerk to the Honorable James C. Fox, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina, 2014-2016

## BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

North Carolina  
US District Court - North Carolina  
Western District  
Middle District  
Eastern District

## CONTACT INFO

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## OFFICE

150 Fayetteville Street  
1700 Wells Fargo Capitol Center  
Raleigh, NC 27601

Ryan's diverse practice includes particular emphasis on esports. He represents players, organizations, and stakeholders in contract, licensing and corporate issues. Ryan also represents domestic and international clients in contracting, intellectual property, and corporate matters, as well as in state and federal litigation. Ryan focuses on providing efficient results and excellent service.

## MY PRACTICE

### ESPORTS

Ryan represents esports players, organizations, and stakeholders in negotiating and drafting contracts, structuring intellectual property deals, addressing corporate matters, and more. Ryan leads the industry in representing Dota 2 players while also representing top players in League of Legends, CS:GO, Call of Duty, the fighting game community, and others. His passion for esports derives from being a lifelong gamer who plays many of the games at the forefront of esports. Ryan understands the esports ecosphere and the various esports cultures and dynamics, and he leverages this understanding and his legal expertise to help his clients address any challenge they might face.

### FEDERAL LITIGATION

A former district court law clerk, Ryan knows the federal court system inside and out. He represents clients in a wide range of complex business, intellectual property, white-collar criminal, and constitutional matters.

### DOMESTIC & CROSS-BORDER TRANSACTIONS

Ryan represents businesses of all sizes in a wide range of corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, divestitures, financing transactions, and lending transactions. He drafts and negotiates relevant contracts and organizational documents. He also works with start-up companies on entity formation and venture capital financing.

Ryan also represents domestic and international companies on cross-border transactional issues, such as imports and exports, cargo claims, intellectual property matters, and tax liability. He is an avid traveler and has a deep appreciation for international cultures and commerce.

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COUNSEL & LITIGATION

Ryan counsels clients on a variety of intellectual property matters, including copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets. He works with companies and individuals to properly identify and protect their intellectual property rights. Ryan also litigates intellectual property infringement and trade secrets misappropriation lawsuits in state and federal courts when necessary.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Attorney Editor-in-Chief, Esports Bar Association's Publications (2019-present)

Co-Chair, North Carolina Bar Association Sports & Entertainment Law Section Ethics Committee (2019-present)

Member, North Carolina Pro Bono Resource Center Advisory Board (2018-present)

Member, Board of Directors, [Children's Museum of Wilmington](#) (2017-present)

Member, WHQR Community Advisory Board (2017-present)

Member, Board of Directors, Young Professionals Committee, [A Safe Place](#) (2017-2018)

## PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA

Presenter, "Legal Basic for FGC Players: Contracts, Intellectual Property, and Entity Formation," CEO 2019 Fighting Game Tournament, Daytona, FL, June 28, 2019

Panelist, "Governance, Player Unions, and Dispute Resolution," Esports Bar Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA, June 2019

Presenter, "What Every Lawyer Should Know About Esports," UNC School of Law Festival of Legal Learning, February 2019

Panelist, "The Ecosports Ecosystem," Cardozo School of Law Esports Bar Association CLE, New York, NY, November 7, 2018

Panelist, "An Introduction to Esports," Minnesota State Bar Association Arts & Entertainment Law Section Annual Meeting & CLE, Minneapolis, MN, June 2018

Moderator, "Building a Career in Esports Law," Esports Bar Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA, June 2018

Co-author (with Melissa Bailey), "The Business of Being a Pro Gamer: Four Ways to Protect Your Value," *Esports Observer*, February 2018

Co-author (with Charles Baldwin), "Contracts and Dispute Resolution in Sales of Goods to US Customers," *GGI Insider*, November 2017

*Giving Away the Playbook: How North Carolina's Public Records Law Can Be Used to Harass, Intimidate, and Spy* 91 N.C. L. Rev. 2117 (2013)

Co-author, *Regarding Municipal, Quasi-Judicial Proceedings – Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies, and Applying Collateral Estoppel to Defeat Collateral Attacks* (August 2013) (co-written with Keith Johnson of Poyner Spruill)

*When Can a Hacker Start a War?* Pacific Standard Magazine, Feb. 26, 2015

Brooks Pierce Attorney Selected as Attorney Editor-in-Chief of Esports Bar Publications, October 22, 2019

Brooks Pierce Attorney Discusses Esports with Business North Carolina, October 18, 2019

Ryan Fairchild Named to Leadership of NCBA Sports and Entertainment Section, October 3, 2019

Ryan Fairchild Discusses Esports Player Contract Controversy, September 18, 2019

Ryan Fairchild Quoted in Article on Esports Player Payment Controversy, August 23, 2019

Brooks Pierce Attorney Discusses Esports Lawsuit with ESPN.com, June 11, 2019

Ryan Fairchild Quoted in ESPN Article on Esports Lawsuit, May 28, 2019

Seven Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Present at the 2019 Festival of Legal Learning, January 29, 2019

Two Brooks Pierce Attorneys Appointed to Inaugural North Carolina Pro Bono Resource Center Advisory Board, August 16, 2018

Ryan Fairchild Quoted on ESPN.com, June 12, 2018

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## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Ryan Fairchild to Serve on Panel at Sports Lawyers Association Event, October 29, 2019

Brooks Pierce Attorney Ryan Fairchild to Speak at Community Effort Orlando 2019 Fight Game Tournament, June 27, 2019

Ryan Fairchild Speaks on Panel at Esports Bar Association Conference, June 20, 2019

Ryan Fairchild Discusses the Growth of Esports with Sports Business Journal , December 19, 2018