

# BENJAMIN, BAIN HOWARD & COHEN | LLC

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## *Brent W. Houston*

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**Brent Houston represents individuals and small and medium-sized businesses in all phases of their business lives. His practice emphasizes a broad range of business and corporate law associated with the needs of growing and established business.**

There are three primary phases to the life of a business: the organizational phase, the operational phase and the exit or succession phase. In the organizational phase, Brent counsels and assists the business in planning and organizing the business entity, structuring employment contracts, obtaining appropriate financing, acquiring operational assets and office space, and securing licenses, franchises and intellectual property rights. In the operational phase, he assists the business in negotiating and drafting contracts with suppliers and customers, raising additional capital to expand the business, adding new owners, defending claims against the business, prosecuting claims of the business, and counseling the business about its legal rights and responsibilities. In the exit or succession phase, he assists the business in preparing an exit or succession strategy and negotiating and drafting documents to implement the strategy.

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## Practice Areas

- Business and Corporate Law
- Contracts
- Debt and Equity Financing
- Intellectual Property
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Real Estate
- Construction
- Financial and Tax Planning

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## Representative Matters

**He has represented clients in a number of industries, including:**

- Construction
- Information technology
- Real estate development
- Manufacturing and distribution
- Retail food and liquor
- Retail clothing and jewelry
- Banking and finance
- Oil and gas
- Entertainment
- Agriculture
- Employment services

## Professional Experience and Awards

- American Jurisprudence Award for Research and Writing, 1995
- Advanced Tax Fellow, University of Missouri at Kansas City, 1996
- Colorado Bar, 1996
- Member, Colorado Bar Association
- Member, Denver Bar Association
- Author, *Structuring Real Estate Investments for Late Development: Maximizing Long-Term Capital Gains*, 33 Colorado Law, 8, p. 119

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**Community Involvement**

- Children's Hospital Foundation
- International Mountain Bike Association/Colorado Mountain Bike Association

**Education**

- University of Kansas, B.S., 1992
- Washburn School of Law, J.D., with Honors, 1996
- University of Missouri at Kansas City, L.L.M., 1996