

Firm News | March 24, 2025

Troutman Pepper Locke Receives Unanimous Support as 52 Attorneys General File Amicus Brief to Protect Educational Benefits for Veterans

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NEW YORK – In a remarkable display of unity, a bipartisan coalition of the attorneys general for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands filed an *amicus curiae* brief in support of Troutman Pepper Locke and Dominion Energy's petition for extraordinary relief in the matter of *Yoon v. Collins*, which continues the fight for veterans' denied educational benefits.

In 2024, the firm and Dominion Energy [secured victory](#) in the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Rudisill v. McDonough*, which affirmed the rights of veterans to receive additional education benefits owed to them under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Despite the *Rudisill* holding, Troutman Pepper Locke's clients Paul Yoon, a decorated Army veteran with almost 24 years of service, and Toby Doran, a decorated Air Force veteran with more than 27 years of service, were denied by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs after applying to use their benefits to support the education of their children. The VA stated that Yoon and Doran were required to have had a break in their decades of service to qualify under the Montgomery and Post-9/11 GI Bills, which is inconsistent with the bills and the Supreme Court's decision in *Rudisill*. Ultimately, both veterans have been forced to pay out-of-pocket for educational expenses until relief is secured.

Troutman Pepper Locke's representation of Yoon and Doran continues the firm's partnership with Dominion Energy to protect the rights of U.S. veterans.

The case also demonstrates the strength of the firm's nationally recognized Appellate and Supreme Court Practice and Regulatory Investigations, Strategy, and Enforcement (RISE) Practice, which have worked together to advocate for veterans in the courtroom and with state agencies.

[Misha Tseytlin](#), [Timothy McHugh](#), [Mary Grace Metcalfe](#), [Jeff Johnson](#), [Lauren Miller](#), and [Trey Smith](#), among others, as well as David DePippo from Dominion Energy, represent Yoon and Doran. Metcalfe played a vital role in securing support for the amicus brief, liaising with the state AGs to obtain this unprecedented unanimous support.

Yoon v. Collins is currently pending before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

Troutman Pepper Locke's Appellate and Supreme Court Practice has the experience and insight to present compelling arguments to appellate courts at any level, and to work with trial counsel to best preserve issues for appeal. The firm regularly appears before the Supreme Court of the United States — in oral argument and on brief — winning several landmark cases. Troutman Pepper Locke's RISE Practice Group combines strong legal skills with firsthand experience resolving hundreds of matters with AGs to represent clients in state AG enforcement actions and litigation.

Troutman Pepper Locke

Troutman Pepper Locke helps clients solve complex legal challenges and achieve their business goals in an ever-changing global economy. With more than 1,600 attorneys in 30+ offices, the firm serves clients in all major industry sectors, with particular depth in energy, financial services, health care and life sciences, insurance and reinsurance, private equity, and real estate. Learn more at troutman.com.

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