When the trial is over, the next fight is the appeal.

Brownstone Law is a national firm that does one thing: appeals. We do not try cases. We take the record that already exists and argue it in the courts that can still change the result: state appellate courts, every U.S. Court of Appeals, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

When other lawyers step away, we step in.

3,400+	20+	Every	100%
CLIENT MATTERS NATIONWIDE	YEARS OF APPEALS	FEDERAL COURT OF APPEALS	APPEALS ONLY, CIVIL AND CRIMINAL

WHO LEADS THE FIRM

Robert L. Sirianni, Jr.

Managing Partner

He used to argue for the government. Now he argues for you.

Robert Sirianni built his career in the rooms where the hardest legal fights are decided. He clerked in the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Solicitor General, the office that represents the United States before the Supreme Court, under Solicitor General Theodore Olson. He has also worked in the White House, the House of Representatives, the Senate, and with the British House of Commons.

As a former prosecutor who tried more than thirty criminal jury cases, he knows how a conviction is built. He uses that knowledge to challenge it on appeal. Today his practice is 100% appellate: state and federal appeals, petitions to the U.S. Supreme Court, and the post-conviction work that can still reopen a case.

Behind every brief sits an archive of more than 3,300 matters, so each new appeal starts from what the firm has already argued in that court on that issue.

EDUCATION

- B.A., Emory University
- J.D., University of Denver College of Law
- M.B.A., Crummer Graduate School of Business, Rollins College

LICENSED TO PRACTICE

- Florida · Texas · Georgia · Tennessee · Michigan · Illinois · District of Columbia

COURTS

- Supreme Court of the United States
- U.S. Courts of Appeals, First through Eleventh Circuits, and the Federal Circuit
- Appellate courts in 35 states, by admission or with local counsel

ISSUES ARGUED MOST OFTEN

- Supreme Court litigation
- Civil appeals
- Ineffective assistance of counsel
- Sentencing error
- Due process and evidentiary rulings
- Plea withdrawal and involuntary pleas

HOW WE CAN HELP

If a court can still change the result, we take the case there.

Federal appeals

A federal conviction, sentence, or civil judgment. We take it to the U.S. Court of Appeals, in every circuit in the country.

State appeals

If a state court convicted you or ruled against you, we appeal to that state's appellate and supreme courts, nationwide.

U.S. Supreme Court

When lower courts have closed the door, we ask the highest court in the country to take the case. We have done this 115 times.

After a federal conviction

If the first appeal is over, federal law still allows a challenge in some cases, including when a lawyer's mistakes cost you a fair trial.

After a state conviction

Some states still let you challenge a conviction after the appeal window has closed. We handle that work across the country.

Business and family appeals

Contract fights, family-law judgments, probate, insurance, and agency decisions, when the trial court got it wrong.

THE PRACTICE IN NUMBERS

FIRM CASE-FILE AUDIT · AUGUST 2026	TOTAL	ARGUED
Unique client matters	**3,428**	3,114
Criminal appellate and post-conviction matters	**936**	822
U.S. Supreme Court matters	**115**	107
Federal appeals	**201**	176
Federal habeas petitions (28 U.S.C. § 2254)	**134**	115
Federal motions to vacate (28 U.S.C. § 2255)	**131**	115
State appeals	**487**	429
State post-conviction matters	**409**	356

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

01

You know the fee before we start

One flat fee, agreed in writing. No hourly meter. No surprise invoices at the end of the brief.

02

A partner works your case

Robert Sirianni reviews the record and shapes the argument. Your appeal is not handed off and forgotten.

03

We go where the case is

One firm. Every federal circuit, nationwide. You do not need a new lawyer in every courthouse.

Tell us what happened at trial.

We'll tell you, straight, whether an appeal is worth the fight.

Brownstone Law
(407) 388-1900 · robert@brownstonelaw.com
brownstonelaw.com

INSIDE THE ARCHIVE

Twenty years of appeals.

3,354
CIVIL & CRIMINAL APPEALS

35
STATES REFERENCED, PLUS D.C.

Where the firm has argued

Matters by the court named in the lead document

Florida Courts of Appeal	317
U.S. Courts of Appeals	258
U.S. District Courts	210
Georgia appellate courts	54
Texas appellate courts	34
U.S. Supreme Court	20
State trial courts, other	464

What the firm has argued about

Matters by issue raised or case type, from the firm's own filings

Civil appeals	404
Ineffective assistance	298
Sentencing error	192
Due process	135
Evidentiary rulings	115
Sufficiency of the evidence	112
Involuntary plea	112
AEDPA time limits	91
Fourth Amendment	75

The authorities the firm returns to

Cases cited most often across the firm's briefs and petitions, by matter count

Strickland v. Washington, 466 U.S. 668	47
Hill v. Lockhart, 474 U.S. 52	12
Torres-Arboleda v. Dugger, 636 So. 2d 1321	10
United States v. Cronic, 466 U.S. 648	9
McLin v. State, 827 So. 2d 948	8
Jackson v. Virginia, 443 U.S. 307	7
Miller-El v. Cockrell, 537 U.S. 322	7

How the courts reviewed them

Standards named in 139 opinions and orders in the firm's matters

De novo	19
Abuse of discretion	13
Strickland prejudice	8
Harmless error	6
Clear error	5
Plain error	5

One firm, nationwide

Matters referencing courts or case numbers in each state

Florida 385 · Texas 147 · Georgia 113 · California 45 · Tennessee 41 · Pennsylvania 36 · Michigan 28 · Washington 21 · Illinois 18 · Kentucky 15 · New York 14 · Ohio 14 · Colorado 13 · Virginia 12 · + 21 more states and D.C.

The Appeals Knowledge Base

Forty-three issue guides, every federal circuit, and state and city pages, each with the firm's own experience counts.

brownstonelaw.com/appeals-knowledge-base/

ON THE PUBLIC RECORD

Matters you can look up.

Each matter below is drawn from a published opinion or a public docket. The description states the court, the question presented and the firm's role as the record shows it. These are matters handled, not outcomes promised.

United States v. Alqsous

6th Cir. Nos. 19-3573, 20-3160 · U.S. No. 22-139

Robert Sirianni and Alan M. Dershowitz were co-counsel in the Sixth Circuit, both argued and on the brief, on whether a defendant has a right to be present at the jury-instruction conference. Co-counsel again on the petition for certiorari, Sirianni as counsel of record.

Hansen v. Musk; Hansen v. Tesla, Inc.

9th Cir. No. 23-15296 · U.S. No. 24-1109

Appellate briefing in the Ninth Circuit and counsel of record on the petition for certiorari for a former Tesla security employee, on how the Sarbanes-Oxley anti-retaliation provision applies when whistleblower claims are sent to arbitration.

Yeager v. Bowlin

U.S. No. 12-1047

Counsel of record for General Chuck Yeager and his foundation on a petition asking whether the single-publication rule governs a Lanham Act false-endorsement claim based on material that stays online.

Flenory v. United States

U.S. No. 11-849

Counsel of record on the petition for certiorari after the Sixth Circuit declined a certificate of appealability, on how Rule 11's factual-basis requirement interacts with the privilege against self-incrimination.

Dippolito v. State

143 So. 3d 1080 (Fla. 4th DCA 2014)

Appellate counsel, with Andrew B. Greenlee and Michael M. Brownlee, challenging the trial court's handling of jury selection in a solicitation case. The Fourth District reversed and remanded for a new trial.

McCarter & English, LLP v. Jarrow Formulas, Inc.

D. Conn. No. 3:19-cv-01124 · Conn. Sup. Ct. SC 21013

Counsel of record for Jarrow in the federal legal-fee dispute that produced a certified question to the Connecticut Supreme Court on common-law punitive damages for breach of a fee agreement.

United States v. Patel

6th Cir. No. 13-1164

Brownstone briefed the Sixth Circuit appeal challenging Title III wiretap evidence and the sentencing-loss calculation in a Detroit-area pharmacy prosecution.

115 Supreme Court matters

Firm case-file audit · August 2026

Petitions for certiorari, applications for extension, briefs in opposition and amicus filings. A denial of certiorari is not a ruling on the merits; the firm says so before the engagement begins.

DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE

Preservation and the record

Where the objection was made, whether the ruling was obtained, and what an appellate court can review. Plain error, invited error and fundamental error, circuit by circuit and state by state.

Standards of review

De novo, abuse of discretion, clear error, harmless error and Strickland prejudice: choosing the issue the standard favors, and briefing to the standard the court will apply.

Federal habeas and AEDPA

One-year limits, statutory and equitable tolling, exhaustion, procedural default, deference under § 2254(d), certificates of appealability and second-or-successive gatekeeping.

Sentencing and pleas

Guidelines error, loss calculation, Rule 11 colloquies, plea and appeal waivers, involuntary pleas and the Hill v. Lockhart prejudice showing.

State collateral systems

Florida Rule 3.850 and 3.800, Texas Articles 11.07 and 11.072, Michigan MCR 6.500, Tennessee and Georgia post-conviction, Illinois PCHA, and D.C. § 23-110.

Certiorari practice

Circuit splits, questions presented, extension applications, the 90-day clock from judgment or rehearing, and a candid read on whether a case belongs before the Court.

Counts are from the firm's own case-file audit (August 2026) and describe matters handled, not outcomes. Past results do not predict future results. Every matter turns on its own record.