

RODNEY E. GOULD

PARTNER, SMITH DUGGAN CORNELL & GOLLUB LLP

Lincoln

A litigator with over 40 years of experience, Rodney E. Gould is known for his unique practice niche of transportation, travel and tour operator law.

He also represents clients in matters involving recreation law, commercial litigation, employer/employee relations including EEOC and state administrative issues, intellectual property and general corporate counseling.

As a nationally recognized expert in transportation and travel law, Gould routinely counsels travel-related entities throughout the world, and has served as an expert witness in numerous cases.

Gould made a notable impact in travel and tour operator law in 2005 when he appeared before the Florida Supreme Court in a case involving the death of an 11-year-old boy on an African safari. The plaintiff in the underlying suit alleged that his son was dragged from his tent and mauled to death by hyenas.

Gould successfully argued that the minor child was bound by the parents' agreement to binding arbitration in the travel company's contract concerning tort claims that might arise during the safari.

In another "extreme tourism" case involving a tragic death in Africa, Gould represented the tour operator in a case involving a 37-year-old man who died from altitude sickness while climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. In 2010, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the denial of an arbitration demand by Gould's client under a clause in the tour contract, limiting damages to \$16,831.

Earlier in his career, Gould sued the Palestine Liberation Organization in the Southern District of New York on behalf of a tour operator whose cruise program was destroyed by the hijacking of the cruise ship Achille Lauro and the murder of passenger Leon Klinghoffer.

After years of motions and depositions, the case settled, with the PLO paying damages to the tour operator.

Business Litigation

2024



ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Adjunct professor, Boston
University School of Law,
Northeastern University
School of Law and Western
New England College
School of Law