



PROFILE

Michael K. Hurst is widely recognized as one of the top trial lawyers in the country in large and complex commercial, intellectual property, and employment litigation. Michael is also a prominent leader of The Bar Association and the community, serving as President of the 11,000+ member Dallas Bar Association in 2018. He has extensive courtroom experience and has litigated and tried numerous high profile cases, including breach of contract, fraud, theft of trade secrets, non-compete agreements, partnership disputes, oil and gas, electricity, employment discrimination, tortious interference, and breach of fiduciary duty. Michael is Board Certified in Civil Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

A passionate advocate of the preservation of the civil jury trial system, Michael has also handled oil and gas disputes, catastrophic matters, products liability litigation, and class actions. He is a frequent speaker and panelist on topics ranging from trial skills, theft of trade secrets, breach of fiduciary duties to energy litigation.

He has been recognized every year by his peers in *Texas Monthly* and *Law & Politics* Magazines as a "Super Lawyer," including being named one of the "Top 100 Lawyers in Texas" in 2005, 2006, and 2008-2017. Also, Michael has been selected as a Benchmark Litigation Star (National Publication). Michael has been consistently named one of the "Best Lawyers in Dallas" by *D Magazine* and "Best Lawyers in America" by *U.S. News & World Report*, and was named Outstanding Mentor by both the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers and the Texas Young Lawyers Association in 2014. He was also named one of the Top 15 Business Defenders by the *Dallas Business Journal*. In 2012, Michael was elected to the prestigious BTI Client Service All-Stars.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

- Obtained the #15 Verdict in the Nation by *The National Law Journal*—a \$94 million verdict resulting in a \$45 million judgment (now on appeal) for Plaintiffs and his clients, Intervenor L.W. Hunt Resources and Richard Raughton for breach of fiduciary duty and fraud after forming an oil and gas partnership
- Presented and argued appeal that overturned a substantial indemnity judgment for a large oil and gas contractor: Nabors Drilling U.S.A., L.P. v. Encana Oil & Gas (U.S.A.) Inc., Case No. 2-12-00166-CV (Tex. App.-Fort Worth [2nd Dist.] 2013)
- Obtained a \$1.4 million jury verdict on behalf of Hunt Consolidated, Inc. in Dallas against an international corporation for two counts of fraud
- Successful defense of a \$19 billion hedge fund and two of its partners in a four week jury trial over alleged breaches of fiduciary duties and contracts
- Obtained a \$1 million jury verdict (post judgment motions and appeals pending) on behalf of an injured special needs child attending local school district in federal court
- Won recent take-nothing defense verdict in an employment case for a large international company in a state court jury trial in reverse discrimination

REPRESENTATIVE CASES (CONTINUED)

- Lead trial and appellate counsel in prosecution of an important trade secret case, published at 965 S.W.2d 19 (Tex. App-Houston [1st Dist.] 1998)
- Obtained an \$11 million jury verdict on behalf of entrepreneur against a publicly traded high finance company (settled for a lesser sum)
- Obtained a \$7.86 million jury verdict on behalf of a medical consulting company for breach of contract and tortious interference (settled for a lesser sum)
- Obtained a \$2.3 million trial verdict/recovery in bankruptcy court for a large energy construction contractor against landfill project and private equity group
- Won recent trial defending investment bank against claim that it owed a multimillion dollar fee
- Represents/represented NFL quarterback, Division I college football coach, celebrity chef, titans of energy, financial industries, and many Fortune 100 companies
- Negotiated settlements related to several high profile clients and high dollar disputes, including recent business and employment suits
- Served as Guardian Ad Litem on several large and high profile matters
- Has handled numerous commercial, intellectual property and employment matters for direct sales companies

Employment Litigation

- Won recent take-nothing defense for large company in state court jury trial, where race discrimination claims alleged
- Won take-nothing defense verdict for large international company in federal jury trial, where FMLA and civil rights claims alleged
- Defended large retailer in age and FMLA claims
- Defended large executive search firm in FLSA claims
- Tried and defended large equipment seller in sexual harassment and intentional infliction claims
- Defended large retailer in ADA suit
- Defended food manufacturer in age, national origin and gender discrimination claims
- Represented woman in trying age discrimination and intentional infliction matter that resulted in large jury verdict
- Represented companies in negotiations and litigation involving former executives and other employees in employment contract and related disputes
- Represented former executives and consultants on employment agreements and related employment and tort claims
- Represented clients and tried numerous non-competition and non-solicitation matters and theft of trade secrets matters including important trade secrets case: Hennessey v. TNT Motorsports, et al.

Energy Litigation

- Represented large FORTUNE 100 oilfield services company in cases involving largest well blowout on land in U.S.
- Represented large FORTUNE 100 oilfield services company in cases involving deaths from oilfield blowouts in Texas
- Handled disputes involving ownership of large offshore wells, and other partnership disputes
- Handles cases for large retail electricity providers
- Handles environmental contamination cases for FORTUNE 500 energy company
- Handles well blowouts and other oilfield cases for large oilfield services company

Intellectual Property

- Handled and tried numerous trade secret disputes
- Handled patent, copyright, trademark and trade dress matters

HONORS / AWARDS

- First male recipient of the Dallas Women Lawyers Association's prestigious Louise B. Raggio Award, 2015
- Recipient, Award of Excellence by DAYL, 2017
- Selected as one of the "Best Lawyers in America" in Commercial Litigation by *U.S. News & World Report*, 2011-2017
- Selected as one of the "Best Lawyers in America" in Labor & Employment Litigation by *U.S. News & World Report*, 2014-2017
- Selected as a "Best Lawyer in America" in the area of Real Estate Litigation by *U.S. News & World Report*, 2014-2017
- Selected as a Benchmark Litigation Star in 2017

HONORS / AWARDS (CONTINUED)

- Selected as a "Best Lawyer in Dallas" in the area of Business Litigation by *D Magazine*, 2008-2017
- Selected as "Texas Super Lawyer" by *Texas Monthly* and *Law & Politics* Magazines, 2003-2016
- Selected as one of the "Top 100 Lawyers in Texas" by *Texas Monthly* and *Law & Politics* Magazines, 2005, 2006, 2008-2016
- Selected as a "Litigation Star" by *Benchmark Litigation* in 2017
- TYLA Outstanding Mentor Award, 2014
- DAYL Outstanding Mentor Award, 2014
- Jo Anna Moreland Outstanding DBA Committee Chair Award, 2009
- Lois Bacon Special Services Award (Pro Bono work), 2013
- Selected as a BTI Client Service All-Stars, 2012
- Selected as one of the "Top 15 Business Defenders" in Dallas by *Dallas Business Journal*, 2006
- Selected as one of Texas' Best Lawyers, Dallas Edition by ALM, 2011
- Voted one of the "Best Lawyers Under 40" in *D Magazine*, 2002 and 2004
- Recipient, Outstanding Young Lawyer Award for Dallas by DAYL, 2001
- Recipient, Outstanding Young Lawyer Award for Texas by TYLA, 2001
- Outstanding Director, Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, 1994 and 1995
- Recipient, TYLA President's Award of Merit, 1999 and 2000
- AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS / COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- American Bar Association, Business Tort Section
- State Bar of Texas, Litigation Section
- William 'Mac' Taylor Inn of Court, Master, 2007 to Present
- Patrick E. Higginbotham American Inn of Court, 2001 to 2005
- Co-Chair, 30th Annual Luncheon, Dallas Women's Foundation, 2015
- Director and Executive Committee Member, Houston College of Law
- Dallas Bar Association
- DBA Board Service
 - 2018 - President
 - 2016 - First Vice President of Board
 - 2015 - Second Vice President of Board
 - 2014 - Chair of Board
 - 2014-2015 - Elected (Fourth Term)
 - 2012-2013 - Elected (Third Term)
 - 2010-2011 - Elected (Second Term)
 - 2005-2006 - Elected (First Term)
 - Chair, Morris Harrell Professionalism Committee, 2016
 - Chair, Trial Skills Section, 2014
 - Chair, Judiciary Committee, 2012
 - Co-Chair, Mentoring Committee, 2010
 - Co-Chair, Peer Assistance Committee, 2009
 - Chair, Finance Committee, 2006
 - Chair, Bylaws Committee, 2006
 - Chair, Justice in Education Symposium, 2006
 - Chair, Law Day Committee, 2004
 - Co-Chair, Law in the Schools Committee, 2003
- Other Bar Activities
 - President, Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, 1999
 - Director, Texas Young Lawyers Association, 1997-2000
 - Board Member, 50-year Anniversary Initiative for Brown v. Board of Education
 - Fellow, Dallas Bar Foundation, 1998 to Present

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS / COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (CONTINUED)

- Life Fellow, Texas Bar Foundation
- Founding Life Fellow, DAYL Foundation
- Chair, DAYL Professionalism and Mentoring Committee, 2001-2007
- DBA Pro Bono
 - President, Community Service Board, 2016
 - Chair, Equal Access to Justice Campaign, 2013 (Record funds raised for pro bono legal services)
 - Community Service Fund Board
 - Consumer Law Mentor

EDUCATION

- South Texas College of Law, J.D.
 - Lead Articles Editor, South Texas Law Review, 1990
- The University of Texas at Austin, B.A., 1987

PUBLICATIONS / SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Trial Techniques, 2017
- Breach of Fiduciary Duty Damages, 2016
- The Imperative of Attorney Gender Diversity, 2015
- How and Why to Find a Mentor, 2014
- Taking an Effective Deposition of a Corporate Representative in a Business Case, 2011
- Voir Dire Basics, 2011