

## Rick Harrison

### PARTNER



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Rick Harrison has more than 40 years of experience in representing clients in complex commercial litigation at trial and on appeal in a broad range of areas, including business litigation, technology, intellectual property, employment and product liability. Financial institutions frequently rely on Rick to defend against allegations of misconduct or breach of fiduciary duties. Additionally, Rick has more than 30 years of experience defending automakers and other manufacturers in product liability cases.

Rick's commercial litigation experience includes the following successes:

- Defended an international corporation in a \$40 million breach of contract/fraud claim before an AAA arbitration panel.
- Prosecuted a Lanham Act false advertising case that stopped the publication of false statements about an international company.
- Defended against a \$35 million trade secret and patent infringement case and recovered \$1 million in punitive damages on a defamation counterclaim.
- Represented the State of Texas with reference to the inheritance tax claim on the Estate of Howard Hughes. This spanned eight years, including a three month jury trial and two arguments before the United States Supreme Court, and an Original Action between the State of Texas and the State of California. It concluded with the collection of \$50 million for the State of Texas.

Before joining Waller, Rick was a partner with Taube Summers Harrison Taylor Meinzer Brown, LLP, a preeminent bankruptcy and civil litigation boutique firm in Austin, Texas, and previously served as a partner and the litigation section head for Jones Day's Austin, Texas office.

### EXPERIENCE

- **Insurance agency sues former surety for improper agency termination**  
Represented a Texas-based insurance agency in a lawsuit against a national surety for breach of contract and violations of the Texas Insurance Code.
- **Surgical staffing agency sues former employees of unfair competition and tortious**

**interference**

Represented a Houston-based surgical staffing agency in filing a lawsuit against two former employees citing unfair competition and wrongful diversion of business opportunities. The case settled.

**EDUCATION**

- J.D., The University of Texas School of Law, 1968
- B.B.A., The University of Texas at Austin, 1966

**COURT ADMISSIONS**

- United States Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Federal Claims
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, All Districts of Texas

**BAR ADMISSIONS**

- Texas

**RECOGNITIONS****The Best Lawyers in America® (BL Rankings)**

- Commercial Litigation, 2007-2023
- Litigation - Construction, 2011-2023
- Litigation - Intellectual Property, 2011-2023
- Litigation - Patent, 2011-2022

**The Best Lawyers in America® (BL Rankings), 2020**

- Lawyer of the Year (Austin, Texas), 2020

**Texas Super Lawyers (Thomson Reuters)**

- Business Litigation, 2007-2019

**Lawdragon**

- Named one of the 500 leading Plaintiffs' Lawyers in America in 2007

**Martindale-Hubbell**

- AV rated, Bar Registry of Pre-eminent Lawyers

**Marquis**

- Listed in Who's Who in American Law and Who's Who in America

**PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT**

- Member, American Board of Trial Advocates
- Member, Austin, Texas and American Bar Associations

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- Member, Longhorn Foundation Advisory Council, University of Texas
- Former Senior Warden, St. Luke's on the Lake Episcopal Church
- Former Two-Term Member, Board of Trustees, St. Andrew's Episcopal School