



DALE JEFFERSON

Partner / Houston Office

Mr. Jefferson is a nationally recognized trial lawyer with extensive experience in complex commercial, professional malpractice, real estate, construction defect, insurance, employment and tort litigation and regularly tries cases as lead counsel in district, county and probate court as well as arbitration. Mr. Jefferson has tried to verdict cases in four different states. He also provides outside general counsel services to a variety of leading business entities and law firms. In the courtroom, he has handled some of the highest profile lawsuits in Texas. Mr. Jefferson has appeared on numerous national television broadcasts, including CNN, Dateline, Good Morning America and the Oprah Winfrey Show. His strengths involve fiduciary litigation, the law of lawyering, insurance law, and coverage issues involving technology, copyright, intellectual property, and the media, employment law, tort law and real estate and construction law. In 2008, Mr. Jefferson was elected into membership in the American Board of Trial Advocates, an organization that certifies only experienced first-chair jury trial attorneys into membership.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Legal Malpractice/Law of Lawyering/Fiduciary Litigation/Probate Litigation
- Insurance and Tort Law
- Commercial/Trial Litigation
- Construction Law
- Real Estate Litigation
- Employment Law
- Intellectual Property/First Amendment/Privacy
- Mediation (Fiduciary, Probate and Coverage only)

HONORS & AWARDS

- Elected Member of the American Board of Trial Advocates
- Recipient: The Joseph S. Horrigan Award for Fiduciary Litigation Excellence by the State Bar of Texas, December 2019
- Named to the Texas *Super Lawyers* list by *Super Lawyers*®, a Thomson Reuters business, as featured in *Texas Monthly* and *Texas Super Lawyers* magazines, 2004–2020
- *Best Lawyers in America* Commercial Litigation, 2015–2021
- Awarded AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating, Martindale-Hubbell
- South Texas College of Law Distinguished Alumni Recipient, 2011
- Named one of “Houston’s Top Lawyers” by *H Texas Magazine*, 2017–2020
- Outstanding Lawyers of America
- Adjunct Professor South Texas College of Law, 1987–2003

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BAR ADMISSIONS

Texas Supreme Court

All Texas Courts

United States Court of Appeals,
Fifth Circuit

United States District Court,
Northern, Southern, Eastern
and Western Districts of Texas



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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

EDUCATION

- South Texas College of Law
 - Order of Barristers
 - Recipient, South Texas Outstanding Advocate Award
 - National Finalist, ABA Moot Court National Championship, 1985
 - Finalist, State Bar Moot Court Cup, 1986
 - Regional Champion and Top Individual Oralist, National Appellate Advocacy Competition, 1986
 - Board of Advocates Director
- Houston Baptist University
 - Captain, University Debate Squad
 - Kappa Alpha Award for Outstanding Graduating Senior
 - College of Humanities Award for Outstanding Graduating Senior
 - Numerous Intercollegiate Awards for College Debate

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- State Bar of Texas (Insurance, Litigation, and Probate sections)
- Houston Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit

NEWS

- *Lawyer Seeking \$9.2M From Ex-Firm Fights Arbitration Bid*
Law360; July 20, 2020
- *GC Violated Duty By Gunning For Share Of Contingency Fee*
Law360; February 5, 2020
- *A Decade After O'Quinn's Death: Litigation, Legal Fees, Foundation Live On*
Texas Lawyer; October 29, 2019
- *Silvia Garcia, et al. v. Gabriel A. Arguello, et al.*
Texas Lawyer
- *Hardin to take on Nuggets player in court of law*
Houston Chronicle; January 26, 2010
- *Court upholds will of King Ranch heir*
Houston Chronicle; July 13, 2007
- *The Inconvenient Sharon Bush*
Vanity Fair; April 2004
- *Suit against Geraldo Rivera settled*
The New York Times; July 21, 1990
- *Cheerleader mom, movie producers settle*
Chicago Tribune; November 7, 1992
- *Judge seals ex-clients' fraud complaint against co-lead counsel in pelvic mesh case*
Thompson Reuters; July 2, 2019
- *Houston Firm Seeks Quick Dismissal of Hospital's Trademark Suit*
Law.com; January 17, 2019
- *Houston homebuilder RG Homes facing new legal trouble*
Houston Chronicle; February 13, 2018
- *John O'Quinn's Former Lover Sues Funeral Home After It Transports His Body to Louisiana*
The Houston Press; March 29, 2016
- *John O'Quinn Still Looms Large at the Courthouse, Even in Death*
The Houston Press; March 21, 2016
- *Hart: Brookshire-Katy Drainage District's version of democracy*
Houston Chronicle; April 10, 2012
- *Kilday Hart: On taxpayers' dime drainage district won't give up*
Houston Chronicle; February 7, 2012
- *Confidential settlement*
Houston Chronicle; Friday, January 6, 2012
- *The John M. O'Quinn Estate and Foundation Announce Lawsuit Settlement*
PR Newswire; January 5, 2012
- *Rick Casey: The epic tale of Lily Gardens*
Houston Chronicle; March 17, 2011
- *Law and Disorder*
Texas Monthly; February 2011
- *The legacy of trial lawyer John O'Quinn*
The Denver Post; August 13, 2010
- *Battle on for Houston lawyer's vintage cars*
Victoria Advocate; August 9, 2010
- *Car collection's fate uncertain after O'Quinn's death*
Houston Chronicle; October 31, 2009
- *Lawsuit accuses Houston attorney of sexual misconduct*
Houston Chronicle; July 31, 2008
- *Big Boobs Revisited*
The Houston Press; May 14, 2008



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- *O'Quinn case: Lawyers take aim at each other*
Houston Chronicle; July 21, 2007
- *Judge rules landowners can keep bridge cover*
Houston Chronicle; December 16, 2006
- *Landowners claim bridge fight just drainage district land grab*
Houston Chronicle; November 27, 2006
- *Deal reached in harassment suit against law school, former professor*
Houston Chronicle; June 28, 2005
- *Ex-wife of president's brother settles case*
Houston Chronicle; March 20, 2005
- *Cast Away*
Texas Monthly; May 2004
- *\$850,000 bet issued in suit involving Neil Bush*
Houston Chronicle; February 21, 2004
- *'Thelma and Louise' lose shot at Hollywood Riches*
Houston Chronicle; January 12, 1996
- *True Greed*
The Boston Globe Magazine; May 16, 1993
- Texas Bar CLE: 15th Annual Fiduciary Litigation
- *Tips to Win the Fiduciary Trial*
- December 10, 2020
- Texas Bar CLE: 14th Annual Fiduciary Litigation
- *Deposing the Fiduciary Witness*
- December 6, 2019
- Texas Bar CLE: 43rd Annual Advanced Estate Planning and Probate
- *Appeals Before Appeals*
- June 19, 2019
- Texas Bar CLE: 13th Annual Fiduciary Litigation
- *Trying the Fiduciary Litigation Case*
- December 6, 2018
- Texas Bar CLE: 12th Annual Fiduciary Litigation
- *Breach of Fiduciary Duty & Legal Malpractice*
- December 1, 2017
- Texas Bar CLE: 40th Annual Advanced Estate Planning and Probate
- *Bringing the Bling to Your Presentation*
- Jun 24, 2016
- Texas Bar CLE: 11th Annual Fiduciary Litigation
- *Course Director*
- December 1–2, 2016
- Texas Bar CLE: 10th Annual Fiduciary Litigation
- *How to Try the Fiduciary Litigation Case*
- December 11, 2015
- Texas College for Judicial Studies
- *Everything You Wanted to Know About Insurance Litigation, But Was Afraid to Ask*
- May 8, 2014
- The University of Texas School of Law: 18th Annual Insurance Law Institute
- *Legal Malpractice Pitfalls to Avoid in Insurance Litigation*
- November 7, 2013
- Texas Bar CLE: 37th Annual Advanced Estate Planning and Probate
- *Spoilation: It's Not Just for Breakfast Anymore*
- June 27, 2013
- Texas Bar CLE: 26th Annual Advanced Evidence and Discovery
- *What to Communicate to Your Client at Each Stage of the Case*
- May 23, 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Mr. Jefferson has been a much sought after CLE speaker for over a decade. Mr. Jefferson has written articles and delivered speeches at seminars across Texas and in other states on a variety of legal topics. His articles cover the spectrum of civil litigation issues, including legal malpractice, insurance coverage, trial and litigation skills and tactics, employment, media, real estate and tort issues. Starting in 2006, Mr. Jefferson has been invited to be part of the faculty for the Texas College for Judicial Studies, the advanced legal education course for Texas Judges. Mr. Jefferson has also been accredited by the Texas Real Estate Commission as a certified continuing education instructor for real estate professionals. Mr. Jefferson also served as an adjunct professor of appellate advocacy at South Texas College of Law where he coached 12 national championship teams in his 17 years of teaching.

- Texas Bar CLE: 36th Annual Advanced Personal Injury
- *Avoiding Legal Malpractice*
- July 6, 2020



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- South Texas College of Law: 27th Annual Wills and Probate Institute
 - *Malpractice and Fiduciary Litigation*
 - September 21, 2012
- Texas College for Judicial Studies
 - *Fiduciary Duty Litigation*
 - April 11, 2012
- Texas Bar CLE: Advanced Personal Injury
 - *Malpractice Pitfalls to Avoid in Personal Injury Law*
 - July 7, 2011
- South Texas College of Law: 22nd Annual Personal Injury Law Conference
 - *Legal Malpractice*
 - April 10, 2008
- Texas Bar CLE
 - *New Lawyer Course Preparing for Trial*
 - 2007
- Texas College for Judicial Studies
 - *Insurance Law Update*
 - 2006
- South Texas of College of Law
 - *Insurance Law Symposium*
 - 2003



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