



Jim E. Cowles
Shareholder

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Practice Areas

- Aviation
- Commercial / Business Litigation
- Tort Litigation
- Premises Liability
- Product Liability
- Professional Liability
- Construction Litigation



Practice Emphasis

Jim E. Cowles is a Shareholder in the Commercial/Business and Tort Litigation Sections of Cowles & Thompson. His experience of more than 550 jury trials has rendered him the senior trial attorney in the firm, with a practice consisting of representation of a wide variety of clients in the areas of commercial litigation, professional liability and construction law.

Education and Court Admissions

- L.L.B., University of Texas at Austin, 1961
- B.B.A. University of Texas at Austin, 1958
- Admitted to the State Bar of Texas, 1961
- United States Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas
- Texas Supreme Court
- All State Courts

Memberships, Associations, Committees

- State Bar of Texas
- Defense Research Institute
- American Bar Association
- Texas Association of Defense Counsel
- International Association of Defense Counsel
- American Board of Trial Advocates, former member

- College of the State Bar of Texas, former member
- Committee for a Qualified Judiciary (1992-2009)
- Patrick E. Higgenbotham American Inn of Court, Master Emeritus
- Texas Bar Foundation, Life Fellow

Special Honors

- Honored by *Texas Lawyer Magazine* in June, 2010, as one of the “25 Greatest Texas Lawyers of the Past Quarter Century”
- Named as Trial Lawyer of the Year, Bench Bar Conference, Dallas Bar Association, 2005
- AV Preeminent rating, Martindale-Hubbell, 2011-2020
- Named to the “Top 5% of America’s Most Honored Professionals,” American Registry, 2011
- Honored by the Dallas Bar Foundation with the 2015 Fellows Justinian Award
- Named as a Local Trial Lawyer Legend, Tort and Insurance Practice Section, Dallas Bar Association, 2010
- Named as one of the “Top 12 Lawyers in Dallas,” *D Magazine*, 1997
- Who’s Who in American Law, 2004-2017
- Who’s Who in America, 2000-2017
- Selected as the “Lawyer of the Year, 2014 Dallas Personal Injury Litigation-Defendants,” by *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2014
- Selected for inclusion in “500 Leading Lawyers in America,” *Lawdragon*, 2006
- Named as a Legend of the Law, Tarrant County Trial Lawyers Association, 2000
- President’s Award, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, 1993
- Selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Legal Malpractice Law-Defendants, Personal Injury Litigation-Defendants, 1993-2022
- Selected for inclusion in *Texas Super Lawyers*® -- Texas Top 100 and Dallas/Ft. Worth Top 100, by *Thomson Reuters Super Lawyers*®, 2003-2017
- Selected as a “Top Rated Lawyer in Commercial Litigation,” American Lawyer Media, 2012
- Selected for inclusion in *Texas Super Lawyers*® -- Business Litigation Corporate Counsel Edition, by *Thomson Reuters Super Lawyers*®, 2003-2021
- “True Texas Legend in Insurance Law,” Texas Bar CLE and the Insurance Law Section, State Bar of Texas, 2010
- Selected for inclusion in “Top 15 Business-Defense Lawyers in Dallas/Ft. Worth,” by the *Dallas Business Journal*, 2005
- Selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in Dallas by *D Magazine*, 1997; 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007-2008, 2011-2016, 2018, 2020-2021
- Selected for the *Texas Lawyer Go-To Guide*, 2007
- Selected for inclusion in “3,000 Leading Lawyers in America,” *Lawdragon*, 2006
- Named as one of “7 Go-To Lawyers in Texas” for Legal Malpractice Defense, *Texas Lawyer Weekly*, 2002
- Inducted into the “Honorary Serjeants Inn of Dallas-Fort Worth Inn of Court”
- Named as one of the 50 Lions of the Texas Bar by *Texas Lawbook* in 2015
- Awarded a Citizens Certificate of Merit and named as Honorary Dallas Police Officer by the Dallas Police Department, 1971

Publications and Speaking Engagements

- “Revenge of the Carrier: When Lawyers Become the Target of Legal Malpractice in Cases Involving Insurance,” 3rd Annual Advanced Insurance Law Course, State Bar of Texas, March 30-31, 2006
- “Apples & Oranges or Apples & Apples,” Ethics, 2004 Spring Meeting, TADC, April 14-18, 2004
- Legends of The Law Seminar, speaker, September 2000
- “30 Minute Voir Dire,” Collin County Bench and Bar Conference, June 1999

- “Putting it All Together,” Defense Research Institute, March 1998
- “Closing Argument,” Young Lawyers Seminar, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, June 1997
- “Winning in the Beginning - Defense Techniques for Voir Dire and Opening Statement,” Defense Research Institute, April 1997
- “Checklist for Avoiding Legal Malpractice,” Southern Methodist University School of Law, February 1997
- “The Biggest Developments in Insurance Law,” *Texas Lawyer*, December 16, 1996
- “Alternative Fee Proposals,” Texas Association of Defense Counsel Seminar, August 1996
- “Developments in Insurance,” *Texas Lawyer*, December 18, 1995
- “Child Molestation Damage Claims,” Spring Seminar, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, 1995
- “Choosing and Courting a Jury,” State Bar of Texas Seminar, April 1995
- “Responsibilities of Senior and Junior Attorneys,” Texas Bar Foundation and The Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism, Texas Wesleyan and SMU Law Schools, 1994
- “Professionalism,” Texas Tech, 1993
- “Jury Verdicts: A Sign of the Times or a Disaster,” Fall Seminar, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, 1993
- “Anatomy of a Trial Lawyer,” Rookie Seminar, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, 1993
- “Voir Dire and Jury Selection in a Medical Malpractice Case,” Litigating the Medical Malpractice Case, Southern Methodist University, 1993
- “Effective Pretrial Strategy,” Learning from the Masters Seminar, Dallas Bar Association, 1992
- “Trial Demonstration,” Southwestern Legal Foundation: Academy of American and International Law, 1991
- “Medical Malpractice,” University of Texas Medical School, 1991
- “Medicine for Lawyers,” State Bar of Texas, 1991
- “Current Issues in Medical Malpractice Cases,” Tarrant County Civil Trial Lawyers Association, 1991
- “Firm Economics,” Texas Association of Defense Counsel, 1991
- “Cross-Examining Economic Experts,” Texas Association of Defense Counsel, 1991