



COWLES THOMPSON
ATTORNEYS | COUNSELORS



Jonathan Spigel
Shareholder

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Practice Areas

- Transportation and Trucking
- Premises Liability
- Construction Law
- Product Liability
- Tort Liability
- Hospitality Litigation
- Insurance Litigation
- Professional Liability
- Employment Litigation



Practice Emphasis

Jonathan M. Spigel is a Shareholder and member of the Cowles and Thompson Tort Litigation Practice Group. Jonathan's practice consists primarily of general insurance defense litigation, including construction, premises and products liability, as well as transportation defense. His clients have included a national homebuilder, international hotel chains, a national owner and separate property manager of apartment and condominium complexes, product manufacturers and retailers, national trucking companies, and retail stores and restaurants.

Representative Matters

- Obtained voluntary dismissals, summary judgments, and favorable settlements on commercial, employment, food poisoning, negligent security, premises and products liability suits brought against national hospitality, restaurant, retail-related businesses, and product manufacturers and retailers.
- Obtained Summary Judgments and favorable settlements for national trucking companies in wide variety of trucking accident cases.
- Obtained voluntary dismissals, summary judgments, favorable settlements, and successful trial results for local attorneys defended in a wide variety of legal malpractice suits.
- Obtained voluntary dismissal for international hotel chain accused of various intentional and negligent acts associated with the removal of an unruly patron.
- Obtained voluntary dismissal for cigarette lighter distributor sued in multiple death case involving minors, where one minor allegedly started apartment fire with cigarette lighter.
- Obtained summary judgment for gasoline tanker trailer manufacturer and lessor in products liability suit brought after gasoline tanker trailer rolled over, caught fire, exploded, and resulted in the burn death of tanker trailer driver.
- Obtained summary judgment for trailer hitch manufacturer in multiple death SUV/travel trailer rollover accident.
- Obtained favorable settlement for owner of bucket truck/"cherry picker" that allegedly malfunctioned, pinning cable employee against wires, injuring his back and requiring multiple surgeries.
- Successfully represented international hotel chain in age discrimination suit.
- Obtained summary judgment for international hotel chain in retaliatory discharge (workers' compensation) suit.

Publications

- **[“The Texas Supreme Court Finds Trial Court Abused Its Discretion in Not Allowing Defendants to Withdraw Admissions Responses,”](#)** author, Cowles Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Feb. 2025
- **[“The Supreme Court of Texas Reverses \\$21M Judgment on a Technicality – The Importance of Being Earnest \(with Addresses\),”](#)** author, Cowles Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Oct. 2024
- **[“Texas Supreme Court Clarifies/Expands Application of Settlement Credits,”](#)** author, Cowles Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, May 2024
- **[“Fifth Circuit Expands Employer Liability for Sexual Harassment/Hostile Work Environment in Private Nude Video Case,”](#)** author, Cowles Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Dec. 2023
- **[“Texas Supreme Court Addresses Procedural and Substantive Requirements for Independent Medical Examinations of Plaintiffs,”](#)** author, Cowles Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Feb. 2023
- **[“Texas Supreme Court Weighs In on Attorney Immunity \(in the Electronic/Wiretap Evidence Context\),”](#)** author, Cowles Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Jun. 2022
- **[“Texas Supreme Court Weighs in on Police Shootings \(in the Private University Context\),”](#)** author, Cowles and Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Apr. 2021
- **[“Temporary Pandemic-Related Bankruptcy Code Provisions,”](#)** author, Cowles Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Apr. 2021
- **[“Limitations on Responsible Third-Party Practice – Dallas Court of Appeals Affirms Trial Court’s Order Striking RTP Designation,”](#)** author, Cowles and Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Oct. 2020
- **[“The Wheels on the City Bus Go ‘Round and ‘Round and Its Operator Still Owes a Higher Duty of Care, Per the Texas Supreme Court,”](#)** author, Cowles and Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Jul. 2020
- **[“Eight \(Corners\) is Enough – Texas Supreme Court Says So – When It Comes to an Insurer’s Duty to Defend,”](#)** author, Cowles and Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Mar. 2020
- **[“Exemplary Damages – Revisiting the Damages Cap Calculation,”](#)** author, Cowles and Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Sept. 2019
- **[“Contracts – A New Spin on the ‘Battle of the Forms’ Conundrum,”](#)** author, Cowles and Thompson *Business and Legal Update*, Apr. 2019

Education

- J.D., St. Mary's University School of Law, 1989
 - Editor, *St. Mary's Law Journal*
- B.B.A., Finance, University of Texas at Austin, 1986

Admissions

- State Bar of Texas, 1989
- 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

Memberships

- State Bar of Texas
- Dallas Bar Association

Honors

- AV Peer Review (Pre-eminent), rated by Martindale Hubbell®
- 2018-2024: Jonathan Spiegel was nominated and approved for membership in the International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC). Membership is by nomination-only into the private organization of insurance lawyers and executives from around the world. Founded in 1920, the IADC takes a leadership role in many areas of legal reform and professional development.