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David Coale

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Widely recognized as one of the top appellate lawyers in Texas, David Coale's diverse experience ranges from sophisticated constitutional issues in the United States Supreme Court to defense of a payphone operator before a Tarrant County Justice of the Peace. He is among the few lawyers to have handled a matter in all fifteen of the Texas intermediate courts of appeal, and is the only known Texas appellate lawyer who has been fictionalized in a romance-novel series as the lawyer for an outlaw motorcycle gang.

A frequent commentator on legal issues, David publishes 600camp.com, a popular blog about business cases in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, and 600commerce.com, a similar blog about the Dallas Court of Appeals and Texas Supreme Court. His recent articles have appeared in ***Slate***, ***Salon***, the ***Times of Israel***, and the ***Cornell Law Review Online***.

HONORS & AWARDS

- Elected President of the Board of Directors of the Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit, 2025-2026
- Inaugural Recipient, ***Dallas Bar Association's*** annual "Lawyers' Lawyer" award, 2024
- Recognized as a "Top Lawyer in DFW" by ***Chambers & Partners,*** 2022-2025
- Recognized as "Best Lawyers" (Appellate and Commercial Litigation) by ***D Magazine*** in 2008-2011, 2014-2026
- Named to the "Hall of Fame ", ***D Magazine*** in 2025
- Named as one of "500 Leading Litigators in America," by ***Lawdragon***, 2022, 2024-2026
- Named "Leading Appellate Attorney of the Year in Texas" by ***Acquisition International***, 2022
- Honored as a "Leader in His Field" by ***Chambers & Partners USA Guide to Leading Lawyers*** – Appellate Litigation (Texas) Lawyers, 2022
- Named "Lawyer of the Year" in DFW appellate law by ***Best Lawyers,*** 2021
- Awarded "Litigation Star" by ***Benchmark Litigation,*** 2021-2026
- Received the "Legal Innovator" award by ***Texas Lawyer,*** 2020

- Senior Fellow, Litigation Council of America, 2020-2024
- Named "Best Lawyers in America" (Appellate and Commercial Litigation) by ***Best Lawyers,*** 2012-2026
- Selected as "Texas Super Lawyer," by ***Super Lawyers,*** 2003-2026 (Top 100 in DFW, 2014-2019, 2023-2024 and Top 100 in Texas, 2015, 2017, 2019)
- Recognized as "Best Lawyers" (Appellate and Commercial Litigation) by ***D Magazine*** in 2008-2011, 2014-2020, 2022
- Received the "Texas Trailblazers" award by ***Texas Lawyer,*** 2019
- Profiled as a "Defender," one of 15 leading defense lawyers, by the ***Dallas Business Journal,*** 2009

EDUCATION

- University of Texas School of Law, J.D., ***with honors,*** 1993
  - Chief Articles Editor, ***Texas Law Review***
  - Order of the Coif
- Harvard University, B.A., ***cum laude,*** 1990
  - National Policy Debate Champion, 1990

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

- Law Clerk, Hon. Patrick Higginbotham, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Obtained temporary injunction against Dallas's ban on 95% of short-term rentals (Airbnb, Vrbo, etc.)
- Obtained affirmance of a substantial judgment for a landlord in a dispute alleging "force majeure" arising from COVID shutdown orders. BB Fit, LP v. EREP Preston Trail II, LLC, 2023 WL 7401501 (Tex. App.—Dallas Nov. 9, 2023, no pet. h.).
- Obtained reinstatement of a dismissed case about a contract to sell a house originally built by Roger Staubach. Aflalo v. Harris, 2023 WL 2522206 (Tex. App.—Dallas March 15, 2023, pet. denied)
- Obtained affirmance of a defense judgment in a multi-million-dollar contract claim about processing payments in the federal food stamp program; tort claims continue. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. v. Xerox State & Local Solutions, Inc., 663 S.W.3d 569 (Tex. 2023)
- Obtained affirmance of dismissal of claims against an out-of-state attorney for lack of personal jurisdiction. Hinduja Global Solution, Inc. v. Ganjaei, 2023 WL 179898 (Tex. App.—Dallas Jan. 13, 2023, pet. denied)
- Obtained reinstatement of a dismissed case involving several thousand pilots' losses from the

grounding of the 737 MAX. SWAPA v. Boeing, 2022 WL 951027 (Tex. App.—Dallas March 30, 2022, pet. filed).

- Obtained complete reversal of a $1 million-plus judgment in a landlord-tenant dispute. AMLI Downtown Austin, L.P. v. Peli Peli Austin, LLC, 2022 WL 722762 (Tex. App.—Austin March 11, 2022, pet. denied).
- Successfully defended the denial of a TCPA motion to dismiss in a high-profile business defamation case. Marble Ridge Capital LP v. Neiman Marcus Group, Inc., 611 S.W.3d 113 (Tex. App.–Dallas 2020, pet. dism'd).
- Obtained affirmance of a take-nothing judgment in a multi-million dollar dispute about the development of an "energy tea" product line. Jacked Up, LLC v. Sara Lee Corp., 807 Fed. Appx. 344 (5th Cir. 2020).
- Successfully argued for dismissal, on personal jurisdiction grounds, of a bellwether case about federal securities claims in state court. Venator Materials PLC v. Macomb County Employees' Retirement System, 2020 WL 289296 (Tex. App.—Dallas Jan. 21, 2020, no pet.)
- Obtained reversal of a "bet the business" case for a short-line railroad in the Texas Panhandle. BNSF Railway v. Panhandle Northern R.R., 946 F.3d 705 (5th Cir. 2020)
- Obtained substantial affirmance of a multi-million dollar judgment in an oil-and-gas case, Stephens v. Three Finger Black Shale P'ship, 580 S.W.3d 687 (Tex. App.—Eastland 2018, pet. denied).
- Obtained reversal of a summary judgment in a major tire-failure case. Medina v. Michelin, 2018 WL 580263 (Tex. App.—Dallas Jan. 29, 2018, no pet.); recognized as "Appellate Lawyer of the Week" by ***Texas Lawyer*** for this win
- Appellate counsel for the team that won a $135 million judgment in Mesa Petroleum Partners v. Baytech LLP et al., (Reeves County, Dec. 8, 2017)
- Appellate counsel for Energy Transfer Partners in its $550 million dispute with Enterprise Products Partners.