



J. David Rowe, PLLC

**Co-Managing Partner -
Austin
Commercial Litigation**

Austin

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At a Glance

Tenacious Trial Lawyer

David has an impressive record handling high-stakes, complex cases involving contract and statutory claims as well as business torts, partnership disputes, antitrust claims, and class actions.

Winning Verdicts

David's long list of impressive litigation victories includes multi-week jury and bench trials, arbitration hearings and contested evidentiary hearings. When disputes need to be tried, David is the lawyer with skill and experience to see the case through.

Varied Industry Experience

David's clients range from property and business owners to healthcare providers, technology companies, oil and gas companies, auto parts manufacturers, and water utilities.

Certified Mediator

David is also a certified mediator who draws upon his considerable experience as a litigant to help parties resolve complex disputes. His unique blend of empathy and creative problem solving helps parties reach compromise solutions under the most trying circumstances.

J. David Rowe, PLLC is the co-managing partner of the Austin office, a member of MWM's commercial litigation section, and a member of the firm's executive committee. David brings nearly 30 years of trial experience representing clients in high-stakes, complex business litigation matters, and class actions. His experience includes prosecuting and defending complex commercial cases involving contract and statutory claims as well as fraud, business break-ups, partnership disputes, fiduciary duty, and other business torts. He also handles antitrust matters and class actions for both plaintiffs and defendants. He is also a certified mediator, having completed mediation training in accordance with the Texas Alternative Dispute Resolution Act.

Known for winning favorable verdicts, judgments, and appeals, David is a highly skilled trial lawyer representing clients that range from property and business owners to healthcare providers, technology companies, oil and gas companies, auto parts manufacturers, and water utilities.

David's experience includes partnership and shareholder disputes, construction defect and payment disputes, copyright and trademark infringement, antitrust, civil RICO, landlord-tenant, trade secrets and unfair competition, covenants not to compete, breach of warranty, and securities fraud cases. This wealth of experience encompasses a wide variety of industries including real estate, automotive parts, government contracting, truck leasing, retail, video gaming, software development, telecommunications, mining, insurance, water treatment, oil and gas, after-market warranties, financial institutions, and health care.

David began his career as an associate in an international law firm, where he trained for more than a decade, gaining invaluable experience. In 2006, David joined an Austin-based law firm, where he honed his trial skills before joining MWM in 2021.

In addition to his litigation and mediation work, David also serves as an adjunct professor, teaching trial advocacy at the University of Texas School of Law where he graduated with honors and served on the editorial board of the Texas Law Review and as director of the Legal Research Board. Listed as a Texas Super Lawyer in business litigation and recognized by Best Lawyers in America, David brings considerable trial experience to MWM's award-winning litigation section. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Austin Bar Association, is admitted to practice in multiple Federal District and Appellate Courts, and is a Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation.

Experience

- In *425 Soledad v. CRVI Riverwalk*, No. 23-0344 (Tex. 2024), David obtained a Judgment in favor of an office building owner after a two-week trial during which David convinced the Court that an unrecorded agreement allowing the building owner to use a nearby parking garage was enforceable against a subsequent purchaser of the garage who denied knowing about the agreement. David then co-authored the appellate briefs that persuaded the Texas Supreme Court to uphold the trial court's judgment. ([Opinion](#))
- In *Burnett v. National Association of Realtors*, No. 19-CV-00332 (W.D. Mo. 2024) (and multiple related cases), David served as co-lead defense counsel for one of the real estate brokerages in a series of nationwide class action cases challenging NAR's policy on commission sharing. David and team negotiated a favorable settlement that was approved over multiple objections. ([Order](#))
- In *iGem Communications v. MAG DS Corp.*, No. 24-CV-5649 (S.D.N.Y. 2024), David is lead counsel for the plaintiff, which alleges it was damaged to the tune of \$1.6 million+ by MAG DS' breach of an agreement to pay for internet and SD-WAN services. David persuaded the Court to deny MAG DS' Motion to Dismiss. ([Opinion](#))
- In *O'Shaughnessy v. Young Living Essential Oils*, No. 2:20-CV-00470 (D. Utah 2024), David is co-lead plaintiff's counsel in a putative class action seeking to recover hundreds of millions of dollars against Young Living Essential Oils based on allegations that Young Living is running a pyramid scheme. David co-authored the briefing and/or presented oral argument that persuaded the trial Court to deny a series of defensive Motions, including Defendant's Motion to Compel Arbitration ([Order](#)), Defendant's Motion to Dismiss, and Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment. Defendant also co-authored the briefing that persuaded the Fifth Circuit to affirm denial of the Motion to Compel Arbitration. ([Opinion](#))
- In *Matson v. NIBCO, Inc.*, No. 21-51151 (5th 2022), David served as co-lead plaintiff's counsel in a class action alleging thousands of homeowners were damaged by defective plumbing systems. David and team negotiated a settlement valued at \$8.1 million after which David co-authored briefing and presented oral argument that persuaded the trial Court to strike hundreds of opt-outs that had been coerced by another lawyer seeking to co-opt plaintiffs into joining his competing case ([Order](#)). David then co-authored briefing that persuaded the trial Court ([Order](#)) and Fifth Circuit ([Opinion](#)) to approve the settlement.
- David served as co-lead counsel defending an auto maker in a putative class action alleging fraud.

- As lead counsel for a publicly traded water treatment equipment manufacturer, David led the trial team that obtained a take-nothing judgment after a 3 1/2-week jury trial. Plaintiff had sought \$60 million+ on claims of fraud, product defect, and breach of warranty, all of which were rejected.
- David acted as lead counsel representing an auto parts supplier in one of the nation's largest, multi-district, antitrust class action. He led the team that negotiated a favorable settlement after aggressively defending claims.
- As lead counsel for the purchaser of real estate who had been defrauded, David obtained a judgment on all claims after a week-long jury trial.
- David served as co-lead counsel representing a subcontractor against the general contractor on a project involving construction of a solar power plant. A three-week arbitration hearing resulted in a multi-million dollar award for the client.
- David was retained as lead counsel by an investor in a technology company. A former marketing contractor sued the company and the investor, alleging the investor caused the company to improperly terminate the marketing contract, resulting in the loss of \$50 million+ in sales commissions. David asserted an aggressive defense, causing the Plaintiff to give up and file a voluntary dismissal that taxed the investor's costs against the Plaintiff.
- David was lead counsel for a closely held corporation in an action to enforce non-compete agreements against a group of former employees who left to form their own competing business. David obtained a temporary injunction enforcing the non-compete agreements after a week-long bench trial.
- David acted as lead counsel for a closely held corporation in an action against a group of former employees who embezzled cash, then took trade secrets to form a new competitor. After an aggressive campaign, David negotiated a settlement that included return of stolen business and a five-year non-compete agreement.

Focus Areas

Antitrust & Competition

Automotive Technology

Arbitration

Banking & Financial Services

Business Breakups & Partnership Disputes

Class Action Litigation

Commercial Litigation

Corporate Governance Litigation

Internal Investigations

Securities Litigation

Health Care

Private Equity

Trade Secret Litigation

Education

University of Texas School of Law, JD, 1995
with honors

Book Review Editor, Texas Law Review
Legal Research Board Director

University of Oklahoma, BA, 1988

Associations & Memberships

- Adjunct Professor, University of Texas at Austin, School of Law, Trial Advocacy (2008-Present)
- Director, Civil Litigation Section, Austin Bar Association (2005-2010)
- Chair, Bench Bar Section, Austin Bar Association (2003-2005)

Honors & Awards

- Best Lawyers in America
2025
- Texas Super Lawyer, Thomson Reuters
2020 – 2024

Bar Admissions

Texas, 1995

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan