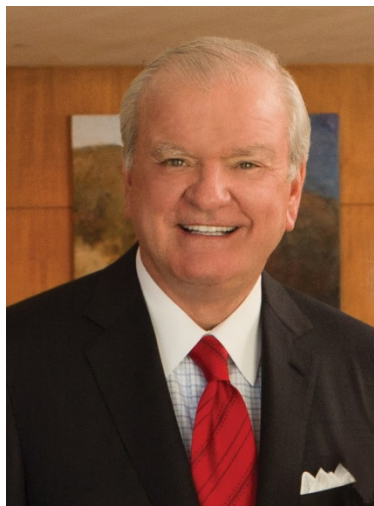


# GODWIN | BOWMAN PC



**Donald E. Godwin**  
**Chairman and CEO, Treasurer Executive Committee**

Direct Line: 214.939.4412  
Toll Free: 800.662.8393  
Fax: 214.939.4803

[DDodwin@GodwinBowman.com](mailto:DDodwin@GodwinBowman.com)

Board Certified, Civil Trial Law,  
Texas Board of Legal  
Specialization, 1979

AV rated "Preeminent"<sup>TM</sup>  
Martindale-Hubbell

Southern Methodist University  
(J.D., 1973)

University of Memphis (M.S.,  
Accounting, 1970)

University of North Carolina,  
Wilmington (B.S., 1969)

## **Practice Areas**

- Commercial Litigation
- Bet The Company Litigation
- Environmental Litigation
- Energy / Oil and Gas Litigation
- Wills, Probate and Estate Planning and Litigation
- Civil Litigation
- Divorce Litigation
- Eminent Domain and Zoning Litigation

**Donald E. Godwin** is considered one of the most respected and tenacious trial lawyers in Texas. For more than 40 years Don has tried significant jury cases in courts throughout Texas and across the United States. Board Certified in Civil Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, he has the ability to translate complex matters of law and fact into easily understandable language for courts and juries. Don's practice covers a broad range of areas with an emphasis on complex litigation, including oil and gas, environmental, fiduciary duties, will contests, major family law disputes and business torts. The high stakes involved in many of these matters place them in the realm of Bet the Company Litigation, where an organization's existence or continued reputation may be in jeopardy.

Of note, Don was the Lead Trial Lawyer in the successful defense of Halliburton in connection with all civil litigation and investigations concerning BP's Macondo well blowout in the Gulf of Mexico, the largest environmental lawsuit in the history of the United States. As well as being recognized as a leading trial lawyer in the United States, Don has also earned the reputation among corporate executives, their legal departments, and other highly visible individuals as a master negotiator where the risks are substantial and the future and successes of such clients are on the line.

Board Certified in Civil Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, and a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), Mr. Godwin is one of the most widely respected attorneys in the nation.

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## Representative Clients

- Hilltop Holdings, Inc.
- Hilltop Securities, Inc.
- Halliburton Company
- Ray Hunt
- Haggar Clothing Co.
- Ross Perot, Sr.
- PlainsCapital Bank
- Prime Lending, Inc.
- Donald J. Ford
- Jeremy Ford
- Alan White
- Hill Feinberg
- Lon Smith Construction Company



Reflecting the standard of long-term excellence established in his legal practice, he has been named to the *50 Lions of the Texas Bar* by Texas Lawbook; recognized in *Chambers USA* since 2014 in the area of General Commercial Litigation, selected to the *Lawdragon 500* honoring the 500 leading lawyers in America, named among the *Top 100 Lawyers in Texas* by Thomson Reuters 10 times, and chosen among Thomson Reuters *Texas Super Lawyers* since the award was initiated in 2003. He has also been honored by selection on the list of *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2012 in the area of Commercial Litigation along with a variety of other honors

## Representative Experience

### Commercial Litigation

- Federal and state securities fraud
- Officers and Directors liability
- Contract disputes
- Breach of confidentiality agreements
- Breach of trade secret agreements

### Environmental Litigation

- Defend companies against claims involving hazardous waste dumping allegations
- Defend companies against personal injury and property damage claims resulting from plant emissions

### Mass Tort Litigation

- Defended Halliburton, Dresser and Brown & Root in their asbestos- and silica-related litigation throughout Texas
- Defend major apparel company in South Texas asbestos litigation
- Defend major manufacturing company in Montana asbestos litigation

### Energy Litigation

- Disputes involving take-or-pay gas contracts
- Gas processing and gas balancing agreements
- Disputes involving cross-licensing agreements
- Royalty disputes between producers and interest owners
- Gas well blowout disputes in Louisiana and Texas
- Actions for theft of oil from tank farms
- Refinery explosions involving multiple deaths and serious bodily injuries
- Pipeline explosions in neighborhoods resulting in deaths, bodily injuries and property damages

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## Professional Services Litigation

- Defend attorneys against claims involving negligence, fraud, unjust enrichment and breach of fiduciary duties
- Defend accountants against claims of negligence, fraud and failures to prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles

## Presentations and Publications

- Frequent lecturer on a variety of topics related to litigation, jury selection, cross-examination techniques and closing arguments at CLE seminars, institutes and trade-association groups throughout the United States
- Frequent lecturer at Mealey's Institutes on a variety of topics involving defending companies against asbestos claims and how to successfully negotiate global settlements of asbestos and silica claims

## Honors and Awards

- 5-time recognition in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers*, General Commercial Litigation, Texas, 2014-2018
- 8-time selection for inclusion among *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of Commercial Litigation, 2012-2019
- 4-time selection to the *Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America*, 2015-2018
- Named among the "50 Lions of the Texas Bar" by Texas Lawbook
- 4-time selection to *The Dallas 500 – The Most Powerful Business Leaders in Dallas-Fort Worth* by D CEO Magazine, 2016-2019
- 5-time selection to *Who's Who in Energy*, in Dallas, Houston, Austin, Denver, St. Louis, Columbus, San Antonio & Pittsburgh by the *American City Business Journals*, 2011-2015
- Designated as one of the "Top Five DFW Defenders", *Dallas Business Journal*, 2006, 2010
- 10-time selection to "Top 100 Lawyers in Texas" by Thomson Reuters, 2003-2006, 2012, 2014-18
- 14-time selection to "Top 100 Lawyers in Dallas/Fort Worth" by Thomson Reuters, 2003-2006, 2008, 2010-2018
- Named "Distinguished Alumnus of the Year" by the University of North Carolina Wilmington, 2019
- Named "Outstanding Alumnus" by the Fogelman College of Business & Economics at the University of Memphis
- Inducted in the Hall of Fame of the Fogelman College of Business & Economics at the University of Memphis
- Named to the *Advisory Board to the Dean* of the University of Memphis' Fogelman School of Business & Economics, 2016-2018

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- Received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Private Practice from SMU Dedman School of Law for 2003
- Named to the *Texas Super Lawyers* Advisory Board, 2010-2013
- 16-time selection to the list of Texas Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters in *Texas Monthly* and *Super Lawyer* magazines, 2003-2018
- 11-time selection as one of the "Best Lawyers in Dallas" by *D Magazine*, 2003, 2005, 2009, 2011-2018
- AV-Rated "Preeminent" by Martindale Hubbell
- 3-time selection to the Best Business Litigation Lawyers List in Dallas by *D Magazine* for 2003, 2005, and 2009.
- Rated 10.0 "Superb", by AVVO
- Selected in the *Dallas Business Journal's* list of the Top 10 Litigators/Trial Lawyers in the D/FW Metroplex, 2003

## Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- State Courts of Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma
- U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Districts of Texas

## Legal Memberships

- American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)
- Dallas Bar Association, Chairman, Antitrust & Trade Regulation Section, 1980
- State Bar of Texas
- William "Mac" Taylor, Jr. American Inn of Court (Master Member)

## Community

- Board of Directors, Haggar Clothing Co.
- Chair, Dallas Symphony
- Corporate Underwriting Chair, Prevent Blindness and UT Southwestern Department of Ophthalmology, Eye Ball event
- Executive Board Member, SMU Dedman School of Law
- Outside Counsel and Trustee, Episcopal School of Dallas, 2002 to 2011