

## Haynes Boone, 16 Lawyers Recognized in 2023 Edition of Benchmark Litigation U.S.

---

October 6, 2022 David Ammons, Barry Buchman, Matthew Deffebach, Andrew Ehmke, Russ Emerson, Jason Habinsky, Lynne Liberato, Ernest Martin, Laura O'Donnell, Adam Sencenbaugh, Leslie Thorne, Mark Trachtenberg, Micah Skidmore

---

**PRACTICES** Insurance Recovery, Labor and Employment, Intellectual Property, Employment Litigation, Litigation, Intellectual Property Litigation, Appellate, Energy Litigation, Oil and Gas Litigation

---

Haynes Boone and 16 of the firm's lawyers are ranked in the *Benchmark Litigation U.S. 2023* list of the nation's leading litigation firms and lawyers, published by Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC.

The firm is ranked in Tier 1 nationally in Insurance as one of the Top 8 insurance litigation firms in the country. In Texas, Haynes Boone was also "highly recommended," the top tier, in Labor and Employment and "recommended" in Dispute Resolution.

"Historically a revered legal brand in its native Texas, the firm has more recently expanded into markets like Washington, D.C., largely on the strength of a rapidly burgeoning insurance coverage practice," *Benchmark Litigation U.S. 2023* said. "The firm has won the praise of multiple peers; one testifies, 'We are very often in the same sandbox as them, we see them often.' Another peer, based in Houston, extols, 'They are really in the mix now, great people.' . . . Clients voice their appreciation for the firm's approach and prowess. One describes Haynes Boone's litigators as 'aggressive and thoughtful, with an excellent understanding of the law,' and states that they are 'good at keeping clients focused, thoughtful with billing and credits, excellent at strategy, trustworthy and empathetic.'" The directory added: "Haynes Boone is also a noted powerhouse in the specialty area of appeals."

For *Benchmark Litigation U.S.*, researchers conducted extensive interviews with a record number of litigators and their clients to identify the leading litigators and firms. During these client and peer interviews, researchers examined recent casework handled by law firms and individual litigators and asked litigators to offer their professional opinions on peers.

The 2023 report recognizes the following Haynes Boone lawyers:

[David Ammons](#), an Energy and Resources partner in Texas, was named a Litigation Star.

[Barry Buchman](#), a partner in the Insurance Recovery Practice Group in Washington, D.C., was ranked nationally in Insurance Litigation as a National Practice Area Star and in Washington, D.C., as a Local Litigation Star. *Benchmark Litigation* commented that "The DC office in particular features trial lawyer Barry Buchman who is a leading policyholder insurance litigator with a [focus on] complex insurance coverage, general liability coverage disputes and other cutting-edge insurance coverage matters." An insurance-focused peer stated: "When people ask for referrals, he's always 1, 2 or 3 on the list."

[Matthew Deffebach](#), a Labor and Employment partner in Texas, was named a Labor and Employment Star.

[Andrew Ehmke](#), an IP partner and the firm's Chief Information Partner based in Texas, was named a Future Star.

[Russ Emerson](#), a partner in the IP Practice Group in Texas, was named a Local Litigation Star.

**Melissa Goodman**, a Labor and Employment partner in Texas, was named a Labor and Employment Star.

[Jason Habinsky](#), a partner and chair of the firm's Labor and Employment Practice Group based in New York, was named a Labor and Employment Star.

[Lynne Liberato](#), senior counsel in the firm's Appellate group in Texas, was named a Local Litigation Star.

[Ernest Martin](#), a partner and chair of the Insurance Recovery Group in Texas, was named a Litigation Star and National Practice Area Star.

[Laura O'Donnell](#), a partner and co-chair of the Litigation Practice Group in Texas, was named a Labor and Employment Star.

**Christos Papapetrou**, a partner and litigator in New York, was named to the 40 & Under Hot List.

**Michelle Scheffler**, a partner and commercial litigator in the oil and gas arena, was named a Future Star and listed in the 40 & Under Hot List.

[Adam Sencenbaugh](#), a Labor and Employment partner in Texas, was named a Labor and Employment Star.

[Micah Skidmore](#), a partner in the firm's Insurance Recovery Practice Group in Texas, was named a Local Litigation Star.

[Leslie Thorne](#), a partner and co-chair of the firm's Litigation Practice Group in Texas, was named a Local Litigation Star.

[Mark Trachtenberg](#), a partner in the firm's Appellate Practice in Texas, was named a Litigation Star.

Haynes Boone's [Litigation Practice](#) takes a client-centered, creative, flexible and practical approach to commercial litigation. The firm's skilled and experienced trial teams have won numerous successful jury and bench verdicts for their clients. Additionally, the group's nationally recognized appellate team works closely with trial lawyers to ensure a complete and proper record is preserved at trial in case an appeal is filed. They represent a range of clients, in terms of both size and industry.

Haynes Boone is an international corporate law firm with 18 offices in Texas, New York, California, Charlotte, Chicago, Denver, Washington, D.C., London, Mexico City and Shanghai, providing a full spectrum of legal services in energy, technology, financial services and private equity. With 600 lawyers, Haynes Boone is ranked among the largest U.S.-based firms by *The National Law Journal*, *The American Lawyer* and *The Lawyer*. It was recognized in the BTI Consulting Group's

2022 “A-Team” report, which identifies the law firms that in-house counsel commend for providing superior client service.