

Thomas W. Tardy III

Member

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Tom Tardy has a diverse background of litigation experience.

Tom has tried First Amendment cases, oil and gas cases, and personal injury cases for both plaintiffs and defendants. However, he has achieved national acclaim for his representation of clients in mass tort cases. For over 40 years, he has successfully litigated mass tort claims nationally, regionally, and locally on behalf of dozens of defendants, including manufacturers and suppliers of products and equipment such as brakes, pumps, compressors, boilers, electrical equipment, and others. He has served as national coordinating counsel for a variety of companies' asbestos and silica litigation portfolios, and has managed the defense of over 200,000 toxic tort claims nationwide.

Tom served as counsel of record for a number of defendants in MDL 875, and obtained several notable victories, including landmark decisions on the "bare metal defense". He also served as lead counsel in multiple matters before the Mississippi Supreme Court and obtained favorable defense decisions that led to substantive tort reform. Tom previously served as national counsel for a high-target defendant involved in hearing loss and hand-arm vibration syndrome litigation, which was successfully concluded. He has been certified as a Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy, and for more than 25 years has been a prolific author and speaker on toxic tort litigation.

Tom has also acted as settlement counsel for a large number of toxic tort defendants and has personally negotiated settlements of over 100,000 toxic tort claims in federal and state courts throughout the country. He is a member of the firm's settlement counsel practice group. He has also met the qualifications for mediators established by the Mississippi Bar Association.

EDUCATION

University of Mississippi School
of Law (J.D. , *with distinction*)

Mississippi State University
(B.S. in Accounting)

PRACTICES

Asbestos
Business and Commercial
Litigation
Environmental
Mass and Toxic Tort Litigation
Settlement Counsel

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Tom served in the U.S. Army where he was an Instructor, Officer's Candidate School, Fort Benning, Georgia and Reconnaissance Platoon Leader, Vietnam. He is perennially listed as one of the top lawyers in Mississippi by a variety of publications.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Mississippi
- Texas

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. District Court for the Northern and Southern Districts of Mississippi
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court
- Supreme Court of the State of Mississippi

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

- Martindale-Hubbell® Preeminent AV™ Peer Review Rated
- Best Lawyers in America®
- Best Lawyers in America® 10-year recipient
- Chambers USA®
- Benchmark Litigation
- Mid-South Super Lawyer®
- Top 50 Mississippi Super Lawyers

PUBLISHED ARTICLES/SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Insurance Company Roundtable", Defense Asbestos Litigation Seminar (DALs) (New Orleans, LA, June 26-28, 2019)
- "The Top Emerging Trends in Asbestos Litigation" Perrin Conferences, Cutting-Edge Issues in Asbestos Litigation. Conference (Beverly Hills, CA, March 6-7, 2017).
- "2016 National Asbestos Litigation Trends" Perrin Conferences, Asbestos Defense Strategic Summit (New Orleans, LA, November 9, 2016).
- "Developing Alternative Exposures" Perrin Conferences, Defense Asbestos Litigation Seminar (DALs) (Las Vegas, NV, June 8-10, 2016).
- "The Top Emerging Trends in 2016 Asbestos Litigation" Perrin Conferences, Cutting-Edge Issues in Asbestos Litigation Conference (Beverly Hills, CA, March 14-15, 2016).
- Corporate Roundtable: "In-House Perspectives on Asbestos Litigation" Perrin Conferences, Asbestos Litigation Conference: A National Overview & Outlook (San Francisco, CA, September 28-30, 2015).
- "Recent Verdicts" Perrin Conferences, Defense Asbestos Litigation Seminar (Las Vegas, NV, June 4-6, 2015).
- "The Top Emerging Trends in 2015 Asbestos Litigation" Perrin Conferences, Cutting-Edge Issues in Asbestos Litigation Conference (Beverly Hills, CA, March 16-17, 2015).
- "The Top Emerging Trends in 2014 Asbestos Litigation" Perrin Conferences, Cutting-Edge Issues in Asbestos Litigation Conference (Beverly Hills, CA,

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March 17-18, 2014).

- "Insurance Perspective on Asbestos Litigation in 2013" Perrin Conferences, Asbestos Litigation Conference: A National Overview & Outlook (San Francisco, CA, September 16-18, 2013).

ORGANIZATIONS/COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

- The Mississippi Bar
- State Bar of Texas
- Capital Area Bar Association
- Mississippi Defense Lawyers Association
- International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC)
- Defense Research Institute (DRI)