

# A View from the Bench – Episode 3 – The Future of Civil Jury Trials with (Ret.) Judge Mark Drummond

A View from the Bench | February 8, 2024

Washington, D.C. partner George Hazel and Houston partner Gregg Costa, both former judges, are joined by retired Judge Mark A. Drummond, a former trial lawyer who subsequently served as a judge for 20 years. Judge Drummond is now the program director for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, where he trains lawyers on the most effective ways to present evidence to juries; he also serves as judicial director of the Civil Jury Project at the NYU School of Law. The three former judges discuss the value of civil jury trials, and describe and debate several innovations that are being introduced to civil jury trials, such as jurors asking questions, lawyers providing daily summations, expert witnesses testifying back-to-back, jurors discussing evidence before deliberation, and judges limiting the length of trials.

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**HOSTS:** **Gregg Costa** is co-chair of the firm's Trials Practice Group. Gregg offers clients a unique perspective as a former federal trial and appellate judge. His broad experience—having handled complex civil and criminal matters, at trial and on appeal, as advocate and judge—allows him to offer invaluable skills and strategic insights for both trials and investigations. **George Hazel** is a partner in the Washington office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher and a member of the firm's Litigation and White Collar Defense and Investigations Practice Groups. A former federal trial judge and criminal prosecutor, Mr. Hazel brings a broad range of trial experience, having presided over approximately 50 jury trials in federal court and handled 20 jury trials and 30 bench trials as an attorney in federal and state court. Since his return to private practice, *Lawdragon* has named him one of the “500 Leading Global Litigators” of 2024.

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