# Collin J. Cox

Partner

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Houston



Collin Cox, co-partner in charge of the Houston office of Gibson Dunn, is nationally recognized for his successes in trying complex commercial disputes. Honored by *Law360* as a “Trials MVP” (2026; one of five nationally), by *Bloomberg Law* as an “Unrivaled Litigator” (2026; one of 25 nationally), and by *Chambers USA* as a “Band One” litigator both in Texas and in Houston, he is a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers, the International Society of Barristers, and the American Board of Trial Advocates.

As *Chambers USA* put it, “Collin is very smart and extremely well credentialed. He is very polished, and a real trial lawyer.” Clients have praised him as “a great, strategic lawyer,” who is “very well versed in the law and easy to work with.” In 2025, he was twice named *AmLaw's* "Litigator of the Week" – once after a historic jury verdict for Energy Transfer LP and Dakota Access Pipeline in a three-week trial in North Dakota, and again after a twelve-day trial in Phoenix that led to a $296 million verdict. In 2026, *AmLaw’s* “Litigators of the Week” further recognized Collin for his role in obtaining the first foreign antisuit injunction in North Dakota's history, protecting Energy Transfer's historic jury verdict. *Thomson Reuters* lists Collin as one of the “Top 100 Super Lawyers in Texas,” and has listed him as a “Super Lawyer” for more than a decade.

Collin’s multi-disciplinary practice encompasses matters involving contract issues, patents, trade secrets, antitrust, and consumer fraud. He has represented both plaintiffs and defendants in a variety of subject areas, including energy, financial services, technology, construction, and real estate.

A preeminent Texas trial lawyer, Collin has tried cases in courtrooms across the state. In 2026, he secured a landmark victory in the second-ever trial held in the Texas Business Court, *Mesquite Energy v. Sanchez Oil & Gas Corp.* A leading voice on the court, he has written for *The Texas Lawbook* and the *Houston Business Journal* about what complex commercial litigation looks like in Texas’s newest judicial venue, and *Bloomberg Law* has sought his perspective on the court’s impact on the state’s litigation market.

Collin was recently recognized by *Benchmark Litigation* as a “Litigation Star.” He is named in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Arbitration, Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation and Intellectual Property Litigation, as one of the “Leading Litigators in America” by *Lawdragon,* and among its Global Leaders in Crisis Management, and in *H Magazine* as a “Houston Top Lawyer.” In 2019, Collin was one of 59 Americans selected as a Presidential Leadership Scholar, completing a year-long leadership curriculum centered around four presidential administrations. In 2012, he was recognized as the Woodrow B. Seals Outstanding Young Lawyer in Houston.

He maintains a close connection to Duke Law School, where he has served as Chair of the Board of Visitors for four years. He also is a member of Duke’s Adjunct Faculty, teaching classes on Complex Civil Litigation and Hearings Practice. Collin currently serves

## Capabilities

Litigation
Antitrust and Competition
Crisis Management
Energy Regulation and Litigation
Energy and Infrastructure
Law Firm Defense
Mass Torts and Product Liability
Securities Litigation
State Attorneys General
Trials
White Collar Defense and Investigations

## Credentials

### Education

Duke University - 2001 Juris Doctor
University of Cambridge - 1999 Master of Philosophy
Baylor University - 1997 Bachelor of Arts

### Admissions

Texas Bar
New York Bar

### Clerkships

US Court of Appeals, 3rd Circuit, Hon. Anthony J. Scirica, 2001 - 2002

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as Treasurer of the Houston Bar Association and as Past President of Houston Volunteer Lawyers. Collin is the past Chairman of the Buffalo Bayou Partnership and the Texas Lyceum, the pre-eminent leadership organization for Texans younger than 45.

Collin was a law clerk for the Honorable Anthony J. Scirica, Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, in Philadelphia.

**Representative Matters***

- ***Energy Transfer LP*** and ***Dakota Access Pipeline.*** Lead trial counsel in a historic $667 million verdict in a trespass and defamation case. The jury's decision marked the largest verdict in North Dakota's history. The Gibson Dunn team's strategic focus on ground torts and defamation claims led to favorable outcomes on multiple counts, including trespass, conversion, nuisance, civil conspiracy, and defamation. The verdict serves as a powerful affirmation of the First Amendment.
- ***Gray Development and Gray Services v. ZOM Holdings Inc.*** Lead trial counsel in a twelve-day jury trial in Phoenix, winning a $296 million verdict for Arizona developers Gray Development and Gray Services. The case involved ZOM's misuse of Gray's proprietary development plans and breach of non-circumvention and non-disclosure agreements.
- ***Treyled Life Settlements LLC v. Campos Trust.*** Lead attorney in a five-day arbitration, resulting in a complete win for Treyled-- $2 million arbitration award, plus fees and costs, and take-nothing on opposing party's counterclaims. The case involved complex issues of securities and state-law licensing.
- ***Maiden Biosciences Inc. v. DSS, Inc. et al.*** Following a six-day federal trial in Dallas, won a $15 million jury verdict on fraudulent-transfer claims on behalf of a Maryland collagen manufacturer. The case involved complicated accounting issues and the values of tangible and intangible assets. The judgment included actual damages and exemplary damages.
- ***Kingston Wind Independence, LLC et al. v. Hyundai Heavy Industries, Ltd. et al.*** Lead trial lawyer in a 13-day ICDR commercial arbitration seated in London. The case concerned wind turbines purchased by claimants, with fraud and contract claims. Following post-hearing submissions, the case settled favorably.
- ***Business Logic Holding Corporation v. Morningstar et al.*** In a complex case involving financial software in the retirement sector, first-chaired a trial team that secured a $61 million cash recovery that represented 95% maximum claimed damages by our client, Business Logic. Reached the last business day before jury selection, the agreement is the 9th largest disclosed trade-secrets settlement in the U.S. Also argued summary judgment, which preserved our misappropriation and breach-of-contract claims and disposed of Morningstar's counterclaim against our client.
- ***Joseph Hardesty, et al. v. County of Sacramento*****.** Helped secure a unanimous $107 million federal jury trial win (after five weeks of testimony) for two mining families in California. Plaintiffs alleged that the County of Sacramento violated their procedural and substantive due process rights by improperly shutting down a sand-gravel mine at the urging of a large competitor (#21 U.S. verdict of 2017). Liability was affirmed on appeal but remanded for excessive damages.
- ***Polyzen, Inc. v. RadiaDyne, L.L.C.*** First-chaired a defense victory in a four-day jury trial in Raleigh representing defendant RadiaDyne, the designer of balloons used in prostate cancer therapy. Before trial, the court dismissed all patent claims brought by the plaintiff, a manufacturer of medical balloons. At trial, the jury unanimously found for our client on plaintiff's trade secret claim and its claim for unpurchased inventory. The jury also found that plaintiff breached the relevant contract, competed unfairly with our client, and failed to return tooling paid for by RadiaDyne. After a seven-year journey, the case resulted in a judgment for monetary damages for RadiaDyne, which has since been affirmed by the Federal Circuit.


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- ***Fulcrum Credit Partners v. Strategic Capital Resources, Inc.*** After a four-day jury trial, won a complete victory for plaintiff Fulcrum, giving the client its full measure of lost damages and its attorney fees. The verdict was named one of the top 15 Texas contract verdicts for the year.
- ***Ruben Rodriguez v. Encana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc.*** Secured a complete dismissal of a breach of contract claim brought against client Helmerich & Payne by a subcontract employee who allegedly was injured on an H&P rig located on Encana's property. Granting our motion to dismiss, the Court held that the plaintiff could not establish he was a third-party beneficiary of his daywork drilling contract where he only pleaded that he received incidental benefits from H&P's obligations under the contract.
- ***Sanchez v. Noble Energy*****.** Secured dismissal of a nuisance and personal injury lawsuit brought against Noble Energy in Texas state court involving an alleged accident that occurred in Colorado. After briefing and argument, the court granted our motion to dismiss for forum non conveniens, dismissing the lawsuit with prejudice.

**Professional Honors & Affiliations**

- *The American Lawyer:* Awarded "Litigator of the Week" for securing a $667 million trial verdict for the developer of the Dakota Access Pipeline.
- *The American Lawyer:* Awarded "Litigator of the Week" for securing a $296 million trial verdict for two real estate development companies in Arizona.
- *Bloomberg Law*: "Unrivaled Honoree," 2026.
- *Lawdragon*: "500 Leading Litigators in America," 2023-2026.
- *Lawdragon*: "500 Global Leaders in Crisis Management," 2025-2026.
- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers* in Texas Commercial Litigation, 2015-2026.
- *Chambers USA*: *Litigation: Trial Lawyers* in Texas, 2025-2026.
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Intellectual Property Litigation, 2016-2026.
- *The Be?st Lawyers in America*® in Commercial Litigation, 2018-2026.
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Arbitration and Bet-the-Company Litigation, 2023-2026.
- "Top 100 Super Lawyer" in Texas, *Thomson Reuters*, 2023-2024.
- "Top 100 Super Lawyer" in Houston, *Thomson Reuters*, 2020-2024.
- "Texas Super Lawyer" in Business Litigation, *Thomson Reuters*, 2013-2024.
- "Texas Rising Star," *Thomson Reuters*, 2008-2013.
- "Houston Top Lawyer" in Business Litigation, *H Magazine*
- Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers
- Fellow, International Society of Barristers
- 2012 Woodrow B. Seals Outstanding Young Lawyer Award, Houston Young Lawyers Association
- Outstanding Young Alumnus of Baylor University, 2008
- Chair, Duke Law School Board of Visitors

**Presentations & Publications**

- Adjunct Professor, Duke Law School, Complex Civil Litigation (2026), Hearings Practice (2017-2026)
- "Business Disputes 2022 Course," State Bar of Texas, September 2022 (speaker)


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- “Helping Clients Overcome Financial Hurdles Mid-Litigation,” Law360, July 16, 2020 (co-author)
- “Nuisance – Trespass and Limitations Issues,” 42nd Annual Advanced Civil Trial Course, 2019 (presenter)
- “Discovery of Damages in TCPA Cases,” 32nd Annual Advanced Evidence and Discovery Course, 2019 (presenter and co-author)
- “Business Development, Marketing and Networking Strategies,” Practice Skills for Young Lawyers, Texas Young Lawyers Association of State Bar of Texas, March 2017 (panelist)
- “Commercial Litigation Trends in Texas,” Financier Worldwide, November 2016
- “Trends in Commercial Litigation,” State Bar 8th Annual Business Disputes Conference, September 2016 (presenter and co-author)

**Education & Professional Background**

- Duke University, J.D., *summa cum laude*, 2001 (Order of the Coif, Editor-in-Chief, 2000-2001, *Duke Law Journal*)
- University of Cambridge, M.Phil., First Class Honors, 1999
- Baylor University, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1997 (Phi Beta Kappa, Outstanding Graduate, College of Arts & Sciences, Student Body President, Permanent Class President)

** Includes matters handled prior to joining Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher*


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