

Joe R. Savoie *Associate*

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Overview

Joe R. Savoie serves clients in the areas of commercial litigation, products liability, insurance and personal injury defense, and general civil litigation. He has experience in defending a wide variety of matters, including premises liability issues, bodily injury and wrongful death, property damage, construction defects, breach of contract, toxic torts, and business disputes.

In his first year of practice, Joe tried his first case to a jury verdict, successfully defending a corporation against personal injury claims arising out of an alleged premises defect. Since then, he has continued to gain civil trial experience as both first-chair and second-chair in cases involving bodily injury, wrongful death, property damage, breach of contract, and toxic torts.

Joe's trial experience has enabled him to evaluate potential risk and, when appropriate, recommend alternatives to litigation, such as mediation or direct settlement negotiations. He has found favorable settlements are often the result of a trial lawyer who is prepared and willing to go to trial, if necessary.

Joe received his law degree from Texas Tech University School of Law. While in law school, Joe earned second place in the Mary Moers Wenig Student Writing Competition for his article entitled, "The Commissioners' Model of Ante-Mortem Probate." The Mary Moers Wenig Student Writing Competition is a national writing competition sponsored by the American College of Trust and Estates Counsel and is judged by law school professors from around the country who teach in the area of trust and estates. Joe also represented Texas Tech University School of Law as a competitor in the Mack Kidd Administrative Law Moot Court Competition in Austin, Texas.

During law school, Joe interned for The Honorable Kenneth M. Hoyt, United States District Judge, Southern District of Texas, and The Honorable Nancy M. Koenig, United States Magistrate Judge, Northern District of Texas.

Education

Texas Tech University School of Law, J.D.,
2012

Stephen F. Austin State University, B.A.,
2009

Practice Areas

Commercial Litigation

Insurance and Personal Injury

Fiduciary Litigation

Admissions

Texas, 2012

Representative Experience

Sampling of Civil Trials Since 2012

- Successfully defended a corporation against personal injury claims arising out of an alleged premises defect. (First chair)
- Successfully defended a corporation against a \$650k+ claim for alleged breach of contract arising out of the sale and purchase of drill pipe. After a three-day trial, the jury deliberated for just 50 minutes and returned a verdict in our client's favor. (Second Chair)
- Successfully defended a corporation against a \$2.6M+ wrongful death claim arising out of alleged exposure to benzene. After a two-week trial, the jury returned a verdict in our client's favor. (Second Chair)

Honors and Awards

- The American College of Trust and Estate Counsel: Mary Moers Wenig Student Writing Competition, 2nd Place Nationally: *The Commissioners' Model of Ante-Mortem Probate*.
- Mack Kidd Administrative Law Moot Court Competition
- CALI Award - Legal Practice

Affiliations

- State Bar of Texas
- Houston Bar Association
- Houston Young Lawyers Association
- Texas Young Lawyers Association
- Defense Research Institute

Articles and Publications

- Savoie, Joe R., *The Commissioners' Model of Ante-Mortem Probate* (May 2011), Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2987165>