



Mike Merriman

Partner, Head of Litigation



Contact

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San Diego Office
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Education

Stanford Law School, J.D. (with distinction) 2004

Boston University, B.A. (European History) and B.S. (Broadcast Journalism) (summa cum laude) 2000

Admissions

California

Texas

Experience

Scott Douglass & McConnico LLP
2013-2021

Major Frauds and Special Prosecutions Section, U.S. Attorney's Office SDCA 2008-2013

Barlit Beck LLP 2005-2008

Law Clerk for Hon. Susan Illston, USDC NDCA 2004-2005

Awards

Named in the 2024 and 2025 lists of Lawdragon's 500 Leading Litigators in America

Recognized by Best Lawyers 2025

About

A seasoned lead trial lawyer, Mike has tried more than fifteen jury and bench trials in courtrooms across the country, including as a former federal prosecutor. His extensive experience in the courtroom and vast experience on complex matters in various industries make him highly sought after in high-stakes litigation. Mike isn't afraid to go to trial, but he always uses his judgment to help clients navigate their disputes efficiently and effectively.

Trial Experience Highlights

First-chair lead in five-day bench trial in breach of contract dispute. Gave opening and closing arguments, took direct examinations and cross-examinations for key witnesses, and supervised post-trial briefing.

-Taizhou Nebula Power Co., Ltd. v. Massimo Motor Sports, LLC, Case No. DC-20-13300 (Dallas County District Court, Texas).

First-chair lead in four-day jury trial regarding dispute between media companies. Argued pre-trial motions, selected jury, and did direct exams for key witnesses (including Armada's CEO). Case favorably settled for client during trial.

-Armada Media Corporation v. Legacy Communications, LLC, Case C17-678 (Hall County District Court, Nebraska).

Bench trial in bankruptcy court on matter originally filed in Delaware Superior Court. Took direct examination of key witness regarding accounting and audit issues. Case favorably settled for client during trial.

-(In re: Mule Sky LLC, et al., Case No. 20-35561 (S.D. Tex. Bankruptcy Court)).

Defended against \$300 million oil and gas claim in seven-day confidential AAA arbitration before panel of three arbitrators. Argued pre-hearing motions, took two key direct examinations on marketing gas and developing and maintaining gas gathering systems, handled direct and cross examinations of lead experts. Panel found in client's favor and awarded no damages.

First chair for two-day arbitration in dispute regarding medical billing and collection services contracts with medical billing company. Argued pre-hearing motions, gave opening and closing arguments, and handled direct and cross exams for all witnesses. Complete award in favor of client, including all requested damages and fees.

-Dominion Medical Management, Inc. v. SysInformation Healthcare Services, LLC (AAA Case No. 01-17-0004-7993).

Defended client against a city's wholesale power contract lawsuit in six-week jury trial. Argued motions before and during trial, took direct examinations, prepared key client fact and expert witnesses for testimony, and drafted cross-examination outlines.

-City of New Braunfels v. Lower Colorado River Authority, Comal County Case No. C2012-1075B (2014)

Five jury and bench trials as a federal prosecutor. Obtained guilty verdicts in all but one case, which ended in a mistrial.

Five-week jury trial defending against firefighters claiming hearing loss from client's sirens. Argued jury instructions, prepared client's executives for trial testimony, drafted direct and cross outlines, and cross-examined two plaintiffs. Jury returned a verdict in favor of client.

-Rago, et al. v. Federal Signal, Case No. 99 L 4752 (Cook County, Illinois).