



# David Sillers

Partner

## About

David focuses his practice on defending clients' reputational and commercial interests when it matters most.

He has represented some of the country's most prominent companies and individuals in defamation lawsuits and related proceedings, including CEOs, founders, technology companies, private equity and hedge funds, university presidents, and current and former government officials. His work frequently involves sensitive, fast-moving matters requiring strategic judgment, discretion, and intense public pressure.

Prior to joining Hilgers PLLC, David was a partner at Clare Locke LLP, widely regarded as the nation's leading plaintiff-side defamation firm. There, he litigated defamation claims and maintained an extensive pre-publication practice aimed at preventing false and damaging stories from being published in the first place. He also has expertise unmasking anonymous defamers by using investigative tools and court proceedings to identify and hold accountable those who seek to hide their actions.

Before focusing on reputational matters, David practiced commercial litigation for more than a decade at premier firms, most recently Sidley Austin LLP in Dallas. He has extensive trial, hearing, and deposition experience and has appeared in federal and state courts across Texas and throughout the country.

After law school, David served as a law clerk to the Honorable Barbara M.G. Lynn of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan Law School in 2008 and his Bachelor of Arts from Princeton University in 2004, each with honors.

David serves on the board of the Human Rights Initiative of North Texas (HRI), an organization dedicated to addressing the legal and social needs of individuals seeking protection in the United States. He has also successfully represented asylees fleeing persecution based on their political beliefs—work he considers the most meaningful of his career.

David lives in Dallas with his wife, Kristen, a trusts and estates attorney, and their three children.

## Contact

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## Education

University of Michigan Law School, JD, 2008 (with honors)

Princeton University, AB, 2004 (with honors)

## Practice Areas

First Amendment Litigation

Reputation Protection

Arbitrations & Commercial Disputes

## Experience

- Clare Locke LLP (Partner)
- Sidley Austin LLP (Counsel)
- Cravath, Swaine & Moore, LLP (Associate)
- Law Clerk, The Honorable Barbara M.G. Lynn (United States District Court – Northern District of Texas)

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## Related Matters

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- David has broad experience in defamation litigation as well as helping advise companies and individuals how to avoid false news coverage through legal means. He aims to minimize the damage from false news coverage or avoid it altogether. He has corresponded with the legal departments of the country's most prominent news organizations including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Bloomberg, The Washington Post, ABC/Disney, Hulu, Forbes, The New York Post, New York Magazine, WIRED, Business Insider, The Capitol Forum, and many others. He has litigated defamation claims against News Corporation, Deadspin (G/O Media), The Wall Street Journal, and the best defense-side media counsel in the nation.
- He also has broad commercial litigation experience on both the plaintiff and defendant side, including but not limited to successful contract disputes, breach of fiduciary duty cases, intellectual property disputes, real estate and earn-out disputes, and non-solicitation/non-compete clauses.