



Stephen D. Susman (1941-2020)

Former Managing Partner

Houston

(713) 651-9366

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Overview

STEPHEN D. SUSMAN, P.C., born Houston, Texas; admitted to Bars of Texas, District of Columbia, New York, and Colorado.

Steve Susman was a titan. His professional success can be measured in many ways: his founding and building of the premier litigation boutique, Susman Godfrey; his extraordinary record of winning complex, high-profile cases for both plaintiffs and defendants, large and small; the number of young lawyers he mentored, molded, encouraged, and believed in; and his personal crusade to enhance and preserve civil jury trials. He accumulated almost countless professional honors and awards over a legal career that spanned 55 years. He had a deep-rooted commitment to justice and the rule of law.

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You will succeed as a trial lawyer if you love what you do.

Stephen Susman

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I hope that my legacy will be that I restored an interest in the legal system in trying cases in front of a jury.

Stephen Susman

Honors & Distinctions

RECOGNITION

- *Benchmark Litigation*
 - Top 100 Trial Lawyers in the Nation (2018)
 - National Litigation Star, 2015
 - Top 100 Trial Lawyers in America, 2014

- America's Leading Litigation Attorneys, 2009 – 2014
- *Best Lawyers in American* (Woodward White, Inc.)
 - Commercial Litigation (1983 – 2020)
 - Bet-Company and Antitrust (2006 – 2020)
 - Litigation: Antitrust, Environmental, IP, Patent (2011 – 2020)
 - Lawyer of the Year: Litigation: Antitrust/Houston (2012)
- *Chambers Global*
 - Leaders in Their Field (2015)
 - Trial Lawyers (2006 – 2013)
- Chambers USA
 - Nationwide Trial Lawyers (2009 – 2019)
 - Nationwide Antitrust: Plaintiffs (2015-2019)
 - Texas: IP (2007 – 2019)
 - Texas – Antitrust (2003 – 2019)
 - Texas -General Commercial Litigation (2003 – 2019)
- *Law360*, Titan of the Plaintiffs Bar (2014)
- *Lawdragon*
 - Hall of Fame (2019)
 - 500 Leading Lawyers in America (2005 – 2020)
 - 500 Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyers (2019, 2020)
- *Legal 500*, Legalease Ltd.
 - Antitrust: Civil Litigation/Class Actions – Plaintiff (2020, 2019, 2013-2007)
 - General Commercial Disputes (2020, 2018)
 - Litigation: Mass tort and class action: plaintiffs' representation: (2013 – 2007)
- *Legal Media Group's Expert Guides*
 - Top Thirty Litigation Attorneys in the United States (2013)
 - Litigation (1997, 1999, 2000, 2003, 2005-6, 2008, 2010, 2012)
 - Competition and Antitrust (1996 – 2012)
 - Best of the Best USA (2006, 2008-9, 2011, 2013)
- *National Law Journal*, Litigation Trailblazers & Pioneers (ALM, 2014)
- *Super Lawyers* (2003 – 2020, Thomson Reuters)

SUSMAN GODFREY

- Top 10 Lawyers in Texas (2003-2007, 2009)
- Top 100 in Texas (2003-2016, 2018)
- Top 100 in Houston (2003-2019)
- *Who's Who Legal* (Law Business Research Ltd.)
- Among Top Ten Leading Litigators in the World (2010)
- Commercial Litigation (2000 – 2014)
- Texas, Commercial Litigation and Competition (2007 – 2008)

AWARDS

- Clarence Darrow Award, Harris County Democratic Lawyers Association (2018). Click [here](#) to see a video of co-Managing Partner Neal Manne present the award to Susman.
- Lifetime Achievement Award, *American Lawyer* (ALM, 2016)
- Lifetime Achievement Award, *Texas Lawyer* (ALM, 2015)
- Lifetime Achievement Award, Texas Association of Civil Trial and Appellate Specialists (2011)
- Distinguished Counselor Award, Antitrust and Business Litigation Section of the State Bar of Texas (2005)
- Outstanding Alumnus, University of Texas School of Law (2001)

DISTINCTIONS

- Visiting Professor, New York University School of Law (2015/2016)
- Editor: "ABA Civil Antitrust Jury Instructions" (1985)
- Board Certified, Civil Trial Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization (1978)
- Special Counsel to Attorney General of Texas (1975)
- Visiting Professor of Law, University of Texas (1975)
- Friars Society
- Fraternities: Phi Delta Phi; Order of the Coif; Chancellors, Grand Chancellor; Phi Kappa Phi

Clerkships

Honorable Hugo L. Black, Supreme Court of the United States

Honorable John R. Brown, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

Education

The University of Texas (J.D., with Highest Honors)

Yale University (B.A., magna cum laude)

Wins

Susman Godfrey Scores Pro Bono Win on Behalf of New York University

Delaware Supreme Court Upholds \$70 Million Award for Susman Godfrey Client Wellstat Therapeutics

Susman Godfrey Wins Unanimous Jury Verdict for Northville Product Services

Court Awards \$42.4 Million Against State of Indiana – Victory on Behalf of Indiana State Employees Believed to Be Among Largest Class Action Judgments Against State in History

Susman Godfrey Obtains Preliminary Approval of \$20 Million Class Action Settlement Against Google

Jury Awards \$178.7 Million Against NL Industries, Inc.

Court Rejects NHL's Claims Against Former Phoenix Coyotes Owner Jerry Moyes

Leadership & Professional Memberships

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Bentham Advisory Panel
- Member, Warren Burger Society
- The New York Intellectual Property Law Association
- Houston Intellectual Property Law Association
- American Intellectual Property Law Association
- The University of Texas Law School Foundation Board
- University of Houston Law Foundation Board
- American Board of Trial Advocates National Board
- Director of Texas Association of Civil Trial and Appellate Specialists
- Trustee, U.S. Supreme Court Historical Society
- Advisory Board, University of Texas School of Law's Review of Litigation
- American Law Institute
- Colorado Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association, City of New York Bar Association
- Board of National Tort Museum

- Board of Modern Courts
- Board, Center on Civil Justice of NYU School of Law

CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Trustee, Yale University Art Gallery
- MD Anderson University Cancer Foundation Board of Visitors
- The University of Texas Health Science Center Development Board
- The University of Texas Development Board
- Leadership Council of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
- National Eagle Scout Association