



George Haley

Partner

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With more than 40 years of experience in complex commercial litigation, George Haley helps clients to resolve their most critical disputes.

His trial experience includes bet-the-company cases, defense of Clean Air Act cases, litigation related to the oil and gas industry, legal malpractice defense, intellectual property, antitrust matters, class actions, and insurance coverage disputes.

Certified mediator and arbitrator: George is also a certified mediator and arbitrator with wide experience in successfully mediating difficult commercial disputes. His straight-forward but fair approach helps parties in all types of litigation find a way to settle disputes.

PRACTICES

Commercial Litigation
 Environmental and Natural Resources
 Insurance Coverage and Risk Management
 Banking Litigation
 Antitrust and Trade Regulation
 Class Actions
 Securities Enforcement and Shareholder Litigation

EDUCATION

University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law, J.D., 1978

University of Utah, B.A., 1975
magna cum laude

American Arbitration Association, Mediation Certification, 2014

BAR ADMISSIONS

Utah

EXPERIENCE

George believes in teams. He has been fortunate to be surrounded by very talented lawyers. They work on large, complex cases for major industry clients. For the most part he develops the strategy and tactics and let the younger, less expensive lawyers on the team carry out the day-to-day work on our cases. It is all about getting results for the client as quickly and cheaply as possible.

CLIENT RESULTS

Commercial Litigation

Obtained a unanimous jury verdict of no cause of action on behalf of a global credit card company in federal court in Cincinnati, Ohio defending a rule change on the encryption of ATM transactions.

Defended a global credit card company in a class action resulting from a data breach at a major retailer.

Represented 9,000 depositors of five failed industrial banks in a class action against the State of Utah, several major accounting and law firms obtaining settlements totaling \$103,000,000.

Represented a global credit card company in an antitrust case brought by a credit card processing company.

Represented a Utah community bank in recovering \$11,000,000 that had been fraudulently wire-transferred from its correspondent account.

Acted as lead counsel under a joint defense agreement, representing a

large pharmaceutical company. George successfully argued a motion to dismiss in a Fraud and False Claims Act case brought by the State of Utah against 17 pharmaceutical companies. The case was dismissed with prejudice.

Obtained a dismissal of a class action brought against a regional telephone service provider by 28 Utah counties. The Utah Supreme Court unanimously upheld the dismissal.

Natural Resources Litigation

Represented an independent natural gas and oil exploration and production company in a Clean Air Act enforcement action against midstream assets on an Indian reservation.

Acted as co-lead counsel defending a natural gas company against a \$500,000,000 claim for fraud and breach of fiduciary duty brought by one of the largest pipeline transportation and energy storage companies in North America. After a five-week bench trial, final judgment was entered, dismissing all of plaintiff's claims, and awarding the client \$110,000,000 on its counterclaim. No appeal was taken, and the client obtained its judgment in full.

Legal Malpractice Defense

Obtained summary judgment dismissing all of the plaintiffs' claims in a \$225,000,000 legal malpractice claim brought by an oil and gas exploration and production company. The Utah Court of Appeals affirmed the order of dismissal.

PUBLICATIONS

"*Energy Litigation*," *Chapter for West Publishing's Business and Commercial Litigation in Federal Courts, Third Edition*

"Annual ABA Survey of State Class Litigation Law,"

"Newberg on Class Actions," *Contributing Editor*

"Understanding the Laws Behind Securities Transactions," *Thoughts of a Securities Practitioner*

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"George is a frequent speaker on trial advocacy topics, civility, and ethics and the use of electronic technology in court. He is a mentor to lawyers both within and outside the firm and enjoys training younger lawyers the art of being a trial lawyer."

RECOGNITION

- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, Litigation: General Commercial, Band 1, 2013-2019
- *Benchmark Litigation*, Local Litigation Star, 2016-2018
- Mountain States Super Lawyers®, ADR, 2017-2018

- Mountain States Super Lawyers®, Top 100 Lawyers, Energy & Resources, 2007-2016
- Salt Lake City Super Lawyers®, Top 25
- BTI, Client Service All Star, 2011
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® Lawyer of the Year, Litigation – Antitrust – Salt Lake City, 2014, 2018
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® Lawyer of the Year, Litigation – Environmental – Salt Lake City, 2012
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® Lawyer of the Year, Litigation – Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy) – Salt Lake City, 2020
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Antitrust, Litigation – Environmental, Litigation – Intellectual Property, Litigation – Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy), 2006-2020
- *Utah Business Magazine*, Utah Legal Elite, Business Litigation, Arbitrator/Mediator, Civil Litigation
- The American Board of Trial Advocates, Utah Trial Lawyer of the Year, 2003
- *LawDragon*, Top 500 Litigators

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- International Academy of Trial Lawyers, Member
- International Society of Barristers, Fellow
- American College of Trial Lawyers, Fellow
- American Board of Trial Advocates, Member
- National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals
- American Bar Association, Member
- United States Supreme Court Historical Society
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Member
- Trout Unlimited, Lifetime Member
- Utah Hibernian Society, Member
- Sons of the American Revolution
- Bonefish Tarpon Trust
- Westminster College, Board of Trustees, 2000-2010
- Madeleine Choir School, Board of Directors, 2005-2012
- International Academy of Trial Lawyers Board of Directors, 2012-2018