

RMJ

*Ray, McChristian & Jeans*  
ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW

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ALBUQUERQUE | EL PASO | FORT WORTH | SAN ANTONIO



# Ray, McChristian & Jeans

## ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW

ALBUQUERQUE | EL PASO | FORT WORTH | SAN ANTONIO

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5822 Cromo Drive  
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### Albuquerque

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### ATTORNEYS

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Jeff Ray <sup>1, 3</sup>  
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Harold "Buddy" Socks  
Alex Soto <sup>8</sup>  
James G. Stouffer, Jr.  
Marisa Ybarra

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### E-MAIL ADDRESS

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<sup>1</sup> Board Certified — Personal Injury Trial Law,  
Texas Board of Legal Specialization

<sup>2</sup> Board Certified — Labor and Employment, Texas  
Board of Legal Specialization

<sup>3</sup> Licensed in New Mexico

<sup>4</sup> Also Licensed in Arizona

<sup>5</sup> Also Licensed in Utah

<sup>6</sup> Also Licensed in Oklahoma

<sup>7</sup> Solicitor, England & Wales

<sup>8</sup> Licensed only in Mexico



# Representative Clients

## *Product Liability*

American Water Heater Corporation  
Atlas Copco  
Cooper Cameron  
Crane Co.  
Dover Elevator Company  
Easton-Bell Sports Group  
Ford Motor Company  
General Motors Corporation  
Hyundai Motor America  
Ingersoll-Rand Corporation  
Kawasaki Motors Corporation  
Orkin-Rollins, Inc.  
Powerscreen International  
Riddell, Inc.  
Simplex Grinnell  
Tyco International, Ltd.  
Wabash National Corp.  
WD-40 Company  
Westinghouse Electric Corporation

## *Medical/ Pharmaceutical Malpractice*

Allied World Assurance Company  
American Physicians Insurance Exchange  
Anaesthesiologists Professional Assurance Co.  
Caronia Corporation  
EDCare Management, Inc.  
Fireman's Fund Insurance Company  
Medical Protective Insurance Company  
Medical Claims Management Group  
St. Paul/Travelers  
Texas Medical Liability Insurance Underwriting  
Association (JUA)  
Texas Medical Liability Trust  
The Ensign Group, Inc.  
Walgreen Co.  
Western Litigation Specialists

*Professional  
Malpractice*

ACE U.S.A.  
Clarendon Insurance Companies  
Great American Insurance Company  
Professional Liability Insurance Co.  
St. Paul/Travelers  
Texas Lawyers' Insurance Exchange  
Westport Insurance Corporation  
Zurich-American Insurance Group

*Transportation*

Amtrak  
Best Transport, Inc.  
Greyhound Lines  
Cardinal Healthcare Corporation  
Contract Freighters, Inc.  
First Group America  
Fleming Companies, Inc.  
J.D. Abrams, Inc.  
Roadrunner Distribution Services, Inc.  
Robby Transportation  
SWIFT Transportation  
Texas Department of Transportation  
TNT Bestway, Inc.  
Union Pacific Railroad Company  
United Road Services  
Wabash National Corporation  
Wilshire Insurance Group  
Zero Motor Freight, Inc.  
Milk Transport Services, Inc.  
Hercules, Inc.

*Commercial  
Litigation*

Bank of America  
B.P. Newman Investment Company  
CIT Group  
Commercial Underwriters Ins. Co.  
Copart Salvage Auto  
First Nationwide Mortgage Corp.  
HUB International Northeast  
Insignia Financial Group  
Koger Equity, Inc.  
Little Caesar Enterprises  
Mariner Healthcare, Inc.  
Mimco, Inc.  
Navajo Refining Company  
Nesco, Inc.  
Ramsey Steel, Inc.  
Simon Property Group  
Toshiba Business Solutions  
VIE Healthcare, Inc.  
Viva Auto Group

*General Negligence  
And Insurance Law*

AIG  
AIU Holdings, Inc.  
Allied World Assurance Company  
AM Trust North America  
American Family Insurance Group  
American Mercury Insurance Group  
Arch Insurance Group  
Aspen Insurance Group  
Auto-Owners Insurance  
Berkley Risk Administrators  
Berkley Specialty Underwriting Managers, LLC.  
Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance  
Broadspire  
Canal Indemnity Co.  
Cardinal Healthcare Corporation  
Carolina Casualty Insurance Company  
Century American Insurance Company  
Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's of London  
Children's Eye Center of El Paso  
Chubb  
Church's Fried Chicken, Inc.  
Circle K Corporation  
CNA Insurance Companies  
Delphi Automotive Systems, Inc.  
Employers General Insurance Company  
Geico Direct  
Insignia Financial Group  
International Distributor Company  
ITT Specialty Risk Services, Inc.  
Kemper National Insurance Companies  
Kimball Hill Homes  
Liberty Mutual Group  
Lincoln General Insurance  
Lexington Insurance Company  
Markel Insurance Co.  
McCoy Corporation  
McDonald's Corporation  
Mid-Continent Casualty Company  
National Union Fire Insurance Company  
Nationwide companies  
Peter Piper, Inc.  
Phillips 66  
Progressive Casualty Insurance Co.  
QBE North America  
Simon Property Group  
Swiss Re  
The Southland Corporation  
St. Paul/Travelers  
State Farm Insurance Companies  
T.H.E. Insurance Company  
Texas Mutual Insurance Co.  
Texstar Produce, LLC  
Time Warner Communications  
Titan Insurance Company  
The Hartford  
The Travelers Indemnity Company  
United Services Automobile Association (USAA)  
United States Liability Insurance, Inc.  
Utica National Insurance Group  
Vela Insurance Services  
Walgreen Co.  
Western Refining  
York Claims Services  
Zurich-American Insurance Group

*Labor And  
Employment Law*

AIG  
Alamo Area Council of Governments  
Albertsons, LLC  
Arch Insurance group  
Axxion Group, Inc.  
Border Foods  
Chubb Group of Insurance Companies  
Church's Fried Chicken, Inc.  
Civil Service Commission  
CTT Lines, Inc.  
Culligan Bottled Water  
Cuna Mutual Group  
Datamark, Inc.  
Dustrol, Inc.  
Elcom, Inc.  
El Paso Association of Radio Stations  
First Federal Savings Bank  
Foss Electric Company  
Foster Electric (U.S.A.) Inc.  
Gaylord Container Corporation  
General Motors  
Hunt Building Corporation  
Imaging of El Paso  
International Business College  
International Radiology Group  
Jobe Materials  
Kelly Services, Inc.  
Kwik Copy  
Lexington Insurance Company  
FedEx Kinko's  
Lucchese, Inc.  
Mission Pharmacal Co.  
Montana Beverage Company  
Mountain Express, Inc.  
Nabisco, Inc.  
Novamex  
Phelps Dodge Corporation  
Pizza Hut of America, Inc.  
Pro Cathedral Church of St. Clements  
Regent Broadcasting of El Paso  
Region 19 Educational Services  
RM Personnel, Inc.  
Savane International Corporation  
Siemens Corporation  
Sunland Optical Company  
St. Mary's School of Law  
Sure Brothers, Inc.  
Taco Bell, Inc.  
Texas Border Sheriff  
Verizon Corporation  
Walgreen Co.  
Washing Equipment of Texas Yazaki North  
America, Inc.  
York International Corporation



*Worker's  
Compensation*

ACE U.S.A.  
American Garment Finishers  
Berkley Risk Administrators  
Broadspire  
County of El Paso  
Farah Manufacturing, Inc.  
Liberty Mutual Group  
Lumbermen's Mutual Casualty Company  
National Union Fire Insurance Company  
St. Paul Travelers  
Ward North America

*Governmental  
Litigation*

Education Service Center - Region 19  
City of El Paso  
City of Socorro  
County of Bexar  
County of El Paso  
County of Maverick  
Texas Department of Transportation

*Toxic Tort And  
Environmental Law*

CBS Corporation, f/k/a Westinghouse Electric Corporation  
Georgia-Pacific Corporation  
Halliburton Energy Services, Inc.  
Navajo Refining Company  
Orkin-Rollins, Inc.  
The Hartford  
Western Refining, Inc.

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## *Structure*

*Ray, McChristian & Jeans is a regional civil litigation firm based in El Paso, San Antonio and Fort Worth, Texas, and Albuquerque, New Mexico. The firm is engaged almost exclusively in lawsuits throughout Texas and New Mexico.*

The attorneys in the firm have high academic credentials and are from diverse backgrounds. Several of the attorneys have received such distinguished honors as state and national board certifications, including the American Board of Trial Advocates, Best Lawyers in America, Martindale-Hubbell AV Ratings, Super Lawyers and various impressive honors in the area of trial advocacy. Several attorneys are frequent lecturers and authors for state organizations on a variety of litigation topics, and hold leadership positions in numerous professional organizations.

The firm has also been recognized by its clients and organizations as among the best firms for trial attorneys, quality and value. The firm has enjoyed the highest ranking among law firms by the major national rating services for many years, including the Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers.

In this age of marketing representations, excellence is a word that is sometimes applied indiscriminately. Excellence should be proven and not simply stated. The best proof of excellence is the litigation and courtroom success of the firm, and the firm's reputation

among opposing attorneys, judges, clients and other litigation firms.

The firm consists of trial attorneys and legal support teams which include registered nurses, certified legal assistants and legal secretaries. The firm has state-of-the-art courtroom technology and employs a technical group for the production of courtroom presentations, graphics and animations. Many attorneys and staff are bilingual to accommodate and assist clients and witnesses in a largely bicultural region. As a result, the firm has enjoyed outstanding success in the courtroom for many years.

## *Practice Philosophy*

The expertise of the firm includes business litigation and insurance defense litigation, including medical and professional liability, product liability, premises liability, lender liability, automobile accident litigation, labor and employment litigation, toxic tort and environmental law, workers' compensation litigation as well as coverage and bad faith litigation.

Most clients are publicly or privately held corporations engaged in insurance, product manufacturing, retail and wholesale sales, transportation, construction and development. Almost all of our clients are involved in regional and national activities.

Our philosophy is to provide top quality trial and appellate legal services for our clients with an emphasis on promptness, efficiency, honesty and integrity.

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## *RMJ's Commitment to Diversity*

As a national multi-office law firm, RMJ has both an extraordinary opportunity and a special responsibility to create and maintain a work environment that affirms diversity of thought, ethnicity, background, and perspective. Our key ingredient for maintaining our top talent is our core value of mutual respect. Our mutual efforts have always been to develop and sustain a law firm community in which diversity is valued. As we work together to maintain the power of diversity, we provide interns, attorneys, and staff with a company experience that is rich in perspectives. We embrace the opportunities to learn from each other, grow with each other, and succeed in a diverse world.

## *Technological Support*

The firm is fully staffed and equipped to provide the most recent technology available for investigations, research, litigation support and courtroom presentation.

A complete network with remote access is utilized by the firm. State-of-the-art electronic communication is also available for direct contact with each member of the firm. Many clients communicate directly through Internet mail, Trialnet and other electronic media.

The firm employs a technical group which provides litigation support for courtroom presentations, videography, graphics, animations, color copying and a variety of demonstrative aids. The group is capable of organizing, scanning, and compiling

voluminous mass litigation information with full text and document control databases.

A state-of-the-art library and research facility is also maintained by the firm to facilitate immediate reference for many jurisdictions on issues relating to all major practice areas of the firm. An expert witness bank and research bank is maintained by the firm, allowing the attorneys to have extensive information regarding expert witnesses and legal issues.

## *Legal Fees And Services*

Hourly rates are competitive with El Paso, San Antonio and Fort Worth law firms and, in fact, offer better value as compared to competing firms in Albuquerque, Dallas, Austin or Houston. No firm in this region offers the experience, success, technical staff and technology of our firm. Billing statements are prepared to accommodate the needs and requirements of each of our clients. The firm is sensitive to the escalating costs for businesses, and engages in forecasting, budgeting and fee guidelines for its clients.

## *Geographic Areas Of Practice*

The firm's practice primarily encompasses Texas and New Mexico, including El Paso, San Antonio, Fort Worth, Dallas, Laredo, Corpus Christi, Las Cruces, Albuquerque, Midland, Odessa, Amarillo, Lubbock and all of New Mexico. The firm routinely handles state and federal litigation pending in these areas; however, several cases are handled throughout the states of Texas, New Mexico and other regions.



# ALBUQUERQUE

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## WILL ALDRETE

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El Paso, TX*

### ■ EDUCATION

- Bowdoin College, Bachelor of Arts in English with Minor in Film Studies, 2012
- SMU Dedman School of Law, Juris Doctor, cum laude, 2016

### ■ LAW SCHOOL HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- International Law Review Association

### ■ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Aldrete came to RMJ after briefly working as a case manager for the U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Disaster Relief. During law school, he was a student attorney with the Consumer Advocacy Project. He worked on issues concerning landlord/tenant law, contract law, debt collection, and DTPA claims. He also engaged in the Clinic's advocacy projects, which included teaching at-risk communities about obtaining and maintaining good credit and researching payday loan reform. He has interned with a company, law firms, and the Texas Attorney General. Before beginning law school, he worked for a Social Security disability advocacy group in the greater Boston area.

### ■ PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

- El Paso Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association

### ■ COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 2016
- New Mexico, 2017

### ■ PERSONAL

- Born in San Antonio, Texas
- Raised in Floresville , Texas



## DEENA BUCHANAN

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Office Location:

Albuquerque, NM



- *Shareholder*

### — EDUCATION

- J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 1998, cum laude
- B.A., University of Pittsburgh, 1995, summa cum laude

### — LAW SCHOOL HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- GULC Dean's List, Spring 1997 and 1998
- Recipient, 1998 St. Thomas More Award for Excellence in Legal Ethics
- Administrative Editor, Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ms. Buchanan is a litigation and trial attorney with experience in a broad array of practice areas that include employment law, personal injury, construction and commercial litigation.

Regardless of the nature of the dispute, she partners with her clients to implement effective strategies to accomplish their legal and business goals. Before relocating to New Mexico in 2008, she served as in-house counsel for Toll Brothers, Inc., a Fortune 500 luxury homebuilder in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In that capacity, she represented the company in a wide range of contract, injury, real estate, intellectual property, product defect and construction related litigation and handled the company's employment law issues. For several years before that, she was in private practice at large law firms in both New Mexico and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where she handled employment, commercial, pharmaceutical and intellectual property litigation. She enjoys representing municipalities, state agencies and private companies in all aspects of litigation in state and federal court and before administrative agencies, mediators and arbitrators.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

American Bar Association, Litigation Section, New Mexico Defense Lawyers Association Claims & Litigation Management Alliance ("CLM"), National Association of Professional Women

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- New Mexico
- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania (Inactive)

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

- Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, West's Legal Directory

### — PUBLICATIONS

- Strange Bedfellows? Married Lawyers and Conflicts of Interest, GEO. J. LEGAL ETHICS, vol. XI, No. 3 (Spring 1998).





## ROBERT LEE EDWARDS

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*Phone:* (915) 832-7230

*Office Location:*

*Albuquerque, NM*

*El Paso, TX*



### — EDUCATION

- The University of Texas at Austin, Bachelor of Arts in History
- Universidad Veritas, San Jose, Costa Rica
- St. Mary's University School of Law, Doctor of Jurisprudence

### — LAW SCHOOL HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Institute on World Legal Problems at the University of Innsbruck
- Distinguished Visiting Jurist Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonin Scalia
- Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity
- Legal Sports Society, Vice President
- St. Mary's Ask-a-Lawyer Clinic

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Robert L. Edwards has gained significant trial and appellate experience in Texas, New Mexico, and Federal courts in various fields of civil litigation, including commercial litigation, personal injury defense, probate litigation, bi-national litigation, dram shop defense, bankruptcy adversary proceedings, breach of fiduciary duty, minority shareholder oppression, insurance code violations, and evictions.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, State Bar of New Mexico, El Paso Bar Association, Texas Association of Defense Counsel

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- New Mexico
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit

### — PERSONAL

- Born in Port Arthur, Texas
- Spanish Language (intermediate)
- Volunteer, Medical Missionaries of Charity, Tamahu, Guatemala



## DAN HERNANDEZ

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Office Location:

El Paso, TX

Albuquerque, NM



- *Shareholder*
- *Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization*

### — EDUCATION

- University of Texas at El Paso, (B.S. 1986)
- University of Denver School of Law, (J.D. 1991)
- Student Editor-in-Chief, American Bar Association Family Law Quarterly, University of Denver School of Law
- American Jurisprudence Award, University of Denver School of Law
- University of Denver Law School Judicial Fellow, Law Clerk, Honorable Raymond D. Jones of the Colorado Court of Appeals and Honorable Jeffrey Bayless of the Denver District Court

### — HONORS AND AWARDS:

- 2016 Investing in Our Community Award, Mexican-American Bar Association
- Vice President of the Board of Directors, El Paso Bar Association, 2017-18
- El Paso Bar Association Board of Directors 2013-15; Secretary 2015-16, Chair/Course Director, CLE Committee 2013-16, Chair, Mentorship Program, 2015-16, Treasurer 2016-17
- TADC, Board of Directors, 2016

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- El Paso City Attorney's Office, Trial Section, 1991-1995
- Ray, McChristian & Jeans, P.C., 1995-Present

Since 1991 Daniel has been an active trial lawyer, trying over 60 jury trials as lead counsel, and many more trials as part of trial teams as counsel for businesses, corporations, governments, employers, manufacturers, owners, insurance companies, and individuals. Daniel has tried cases in Texas and New Mexico in which he has achieved a favorable outcome and defense verdicts in over 90% of his cases. In 2015, Daniel obtained an improbable jury defense verdict in a personal injury lawsuit in which his client had been previously convicted of murder and engaging in organized criminal activity for the very same activity claimed in the lawsuit, and for which he is serving fifteen years in a Huntsville, Texas prison. Daniel has also handled many of his own trial verdicts on appeal with similar successful results. Daniel has tried over 150 administrative cases as lead counsel before Workers' Compensation agencies, and in South Texas, was part of a trial team which successfully defended a worldwide clothing manufacturer in over 2,000 worker claims involving respiratory exposure injuries. As a Board Certified Personal Injury attorney, Daniel has defended a variety of injury cases involving a large variety of accidents, including auto, trucking, bus, work sites, construction sites, premises products, fire, workers' compensation, and dog bites. Many of these cases are catastrophic death and injury cases involving auto and trucking accidents, which includes the handling and examination of a variety of experts in various professional specialties. Daniel also handles cases involving general civil liability, civil rights, deceptive trade practices, premises security, food-borne illnesses, property damage claims, inverse condemnation, first and third party insurance claims, and employment disputes such as discrimination and wrongful termination cases.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

El Paso Bar Association, Vice President 2017-2018, State Bar of Texas, State Bar of New Mexico, El Paso Bar Foundation, College of the State Bar of Texas, Texas Association of Defense Counsel (TADC), Defense Research Institute (DRI), New Mexico Defense Lawyers Association (NMDLA), New Mexico Hispanic Bar Association, American Bar Association, past board member of El Paso Restaurant Association

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 1991
- New Mexico, 2008
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, Southern District of Texas and Northern District of Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico

# DAN HERNANDEZ

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## — REPORTED CASES

- *Daugherty v. City of El Paso*, 56 F3d 695 (5th Cir. 1995); *Myers v. City of El Paso*, 874 F.Supp. 1546 (W.D. Tex. 1995); *Parallax Corp. N.V. v. City of El Paso*, 910 S.W.2d 86 (Tex. App. -El Paso 1995)
- *Rodney Wayne Smith v. William Kimbhal, Richard Pena, Luis Silva and Vanessa Ortiz*; 09-50943; U.S. Court of Appeal, Fifth Circuit, New Orleans, LA
- *Clarence D. Brown v. Allison Taylor, Diana Lemon, Brian Costello, Avalon Corrections Services, Inc., and Carlos Morales*; 14-50388; U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, New Orleans, LA
- *Marc DeWayne Howell v. Collin County Detention Facility, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Baten ISF, Fort Worth Transitional Centers, and Tarrant County Jail*; 14-10485; U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, New Orleans, LA
- *Gregory Martino v. Kiewit New Mexico Co., Inc. and Martin Gomez*; 13-50425; U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, New Orleans, LA

## — SEMINARS & PUBLICATIONS

- *A Truckers Insurance Policies*, @ 9th Annual Ultimate Insurance Seminar. State Bar of Texas, 2000.
- *APremises Security: Liability for Violent Crimes and Adequate Security*, @ Associated Security Services and Investigators of the State of Texas. Sept. 2003.
- *ATexas Workers' Comp Update 2005*, @ Council on Education in Management. Jan. 2005.
- *ATexas Workers' Comp Update 2005*, @ Council on Education in Management. Sept. 2005.
- *AWorkers' Compensation in Texas*, @ Lorman Education Services. Sept. 2006.
- *ATake the Lead in Settlement and Mediation*, @ Settling Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Claims Seminar. National Business Institute. Dec. 2007.
- *ATrying a Champagne Case on Beer Budget*, @ El Paso Bar Association, Annual Civil Trial Practice Seminar, 2012.
- *AGender Bias – Lawyers Behaving Badly*, @ El Paso Bar Association, Annual Civil Trial Practice Seminar, 2013.
- *Mediation Techniques*, El Paso Bar Association, Annual Civil Trial Practice Seminar, 2014.
- *AIpads in Litigation and Trial*, El Paso Bar Association, Annual Civil Trial Practice Seminar, 015.

## — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, Best's Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys and Adjusters, Trial Attorneys of the Insurance Bar, West's Legal Directory

## — PERSONAL

- Born and raised in El Paso, Texas
- Fluent in both spoken and written Spanish



## JEFFREY T. LUCKY

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Phone: (915) 832-7234

Office Location:  
Albuquerque, NM  
El Paso, TX



**Super Lawyers**

- Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by Texas Board of Legal Specialization\*
- Texas Super Lawyer
- AV Preeminent, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory
- Shareholder

### — EDUCATION

- University of Texas at El Paso
- Texas Tech University B.A., 1974
- Baylor University Law School J.D., 1990

### — HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Baylor Law Review, 1989-1990
- Baylor Chapter of the Federalist Society (founding member)

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jeff has primarily been involved in product liability, general negligence defense, labor and employment litigation and commercial litigation with a large litigation firm in El Paso. He has been actively involved in trying various types of civil cases for more than 25 years.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Litigation Council of the State Bar of Texas, 1996 - 2004; El Paso Law Journal, Co-Editor; El Paso County Bar Association, 1997-1998; Editor, EP LAW, Journal of the El Paso Bar 1997-1998; Texas Super Lawyer, Texas Monthly Magazine, 2006, 2007 and 2008; El Paso County Bar Association, Member; El Paso Mexican American Bar Association, Member; Defense Research Institute, Member; El Paso County Bar Association, President 2003-2004; Litigation Section, Council Member, State Bar of Texas 1996-2004

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- New Mexico
- U.S. District Courts, Western District of Texas, Northern District of Texas, Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

- West's Legal Directory, Texas Board of Legal Specialization Directory of Board Certified Attorneys
- Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory

### — PERSONAL

- Born in El Paso, Texas
- Raised in southern New Mexico and in El Paso
- 12-year career in marketing and sales with Coca-Cola USA

*\*Such certification does not constitute recognition by the New Mexico Board of Legal Specialization.*



## JOHN W. McCHRISTIAN, JR.

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Phone: (817) 335-7413

Office Location:  
Albuquerque, NM  
Fort Worth, TX  
El Paso, TX



- *Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization*
- *AV Rated Attorney, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*
- *American Board of Trial Advocates*
- *Texas Super Lawyer*

### — EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Arts degree, North Texas State University, 1977
- Doctor of Jurisprudence, St. Mary's University School of Law, 1981

### — HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Phi Alpha Delta
- 1976 Texas State Collegiate Debate Champion, North Texas State University
- 1980 Texas State Moot Court Champion, St. Mary's University School of Law
- Law Review: St. Mary's Law Review
- Member, National Order of Barristers

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In 1981, John joined a large El Paso law firm as a personal injury and commercial litigator. He subsequently became a partner in the firm and remained there until February 1990, when he left to join the law firm presently known as Ray, McChristian & Jeans.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, Defense Research Institute, American Board of Trial Advocates, National Association of Railroad Trial Lawyers, Texas Association of Railroad Trial Lawyers, American Bar Association, and local bar associations

John has published articles in law school and as an attorney relating to various legal topics.

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 1981
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, 2003
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, 1983
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers, Best's Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys and Adjusters, Trial Attorneys of the Insurance Bar, West's Legal Directory, Texas Board of Legal Specialization Directory of Board Certified Attorneys

### — PERSONAL

Born in Big Spring, Texas and raised in Big Spring, Texas and El Dorado, Kansas



## SHANNON A. PARDEN

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Office Location:  
Albuquerque, NM



Shannon A. Parden

- *BV Rated Attorney, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *Shareholder*

### — EDUCATION

- University of New Mexico, Juris Doctorate, 1990
- Michigan Technological University, B.A. Technical Communications (Life Sciences focus)
- During law school, Shannon was Natural Resources Notes and Comments Editor and Co-Editor of the N.M. Natural Resources Law Reporter.
- Prior to law school, Shannon supervised the Publications Department at Honeywell, Inc., formerly Sperry Flight Systems, was a publications engineer, a technical writer, and a technical editor.

### — LAW SCHOOL HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- American Jurisprudence Award, Constitutional Law, 1988
- Clinical Honors, 1990, for State of New Mexico v. Village of Jemez Springs, 114 N.M. 297, 837 P.2d 1380 (Ct. App. 1992) (land use case)
- Natural Resources Section of N.M. State Bar Thesis Award, 1989

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Shannon Parden represents clients in a variety of civil litigation matters, including insurance coverage, bad faith, insurance defense (e.g., personal injury, property damage), commercial disputes, and construction law. She also does appellate work, provides insurance coverage opinions, and represents homeowner associations.

Shannon practices in both state and federal court. She is a former attorney law clerk for the Honorable Juan G. Burciaga in U.S. District Court and the Honorable William Bivins on the New Mexico Court of Appeals. She has been in private practice as a defense attorney since 1993.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Shannon is licensed to practice in the States of New Mexico and Minnesota, as well as the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico and the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. She is a member of the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance ("CLM"), New Mexico Defense Lawyers Association, American Bar Association, the Defense Research Institute, and the Albuquerque Bar Association.

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- New Mexico
- Minnesota (Inactive)

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

- Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, West's Legal Directory

### — PUBLICATIONS

Liability of an HMO Due to Cost Containment Activity, 27 N.M. Trial Lawyer 49 (Mar. 1989). Excerpted in Mich. Trial Lawyers' Ass'n. Newsletter (1989)

"The Milagro Beanfield War" Revisited in *Ensenada Land and Water Association v. Sleeper: Public Welfare Defies Transfer of Water Rights*, 29 Nat. Res. J. 861 (Jul. 1989)

"The Milagro Beanfield War" Revisited in *Ensenada Land and Water Association v. Sleeper: The Role of Public Welfare in the Transfer of Water Rights*, 4 N.M. Nat. Res. L. Rptr. 11 (1989).



## STEPHEN D. RALPH

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Albuquerque, NM*

### — EDUCATION

- J.D., University of New Mexico School of Law, 2015
- B.A., University of New Mexico, 2012, magna cum laude
- United States Military Academy

### — LAW SCHOOL HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- W.E. and Hazel T. Bondurant Scholarship
- Citations Editor, New Mexico Law Review

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

After graduating from law school, Mr. Ralph accepted a position as an Assistant District Attorney in Clovis, NM. There he gained first-hand trial litigation experience prosecuting criminal cases on behalf of the State of New Mexico. He then accepted a position at the Supreme Court of New Mexico as a judicial law clerk for Justice Petra Jimenez Maes, before returning to trial practice.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

American Bar Association, State Bar of New Mexico, Seth Oliver American Inn of Court, Toastmasters International

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- New Mexico





## JEFF RAY

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(210) 348-1825

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El Paso, TX  
San Antonio, TX



- *New Mexico and Texas Bar Licenses*
- *Board Certified - Personal Injury Trial Law Texas Board of Legal Specialization*
- *AV Preeminent Rated*
- *Life Fellow - Texas Bar Foundation*
- *National Panel Counsel For Major Insurers*
- *Texas Super Lawyer*
- *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*
- *2010 Outstanding Lawyer - El Paso Bar Association*
- *2012 Top 100 Verdicts in the U.S.*
- *El Paso Bar Association, Treasurer of the Board of Directors 2017-2018*
- *El Paso Bar Association, Secretary of the Board of Directors 2016-17*
- *2014 Inspiring Generosity Award - Mexican American Bar Association*
- *Texas Verdicts Hall of Fame - 2014*

### EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin (B.A. Honors, 1979)  
St. Mary's University School of Law (J.D., 1982)

- Dean's Honor List
- National Order of Barristers
- National Mock Trial Team
- Outstanding Trial Advocate of Law School
- Outstanding Appellate Advocate of Law School
- St. Mary's Law Journal
- Instructor, Legal Research and Brief Writing

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jeff is known as a trial lawyer who is one of the few lawyers who spends much of his time in court and in front of juries throughout the Southwest. He has tried or has been lead counsel in cases in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Ohio.

During his career, a number of Jeff's cases have received national recognition for defense verdicts in pipeline explosion, tire defect, automobile defect, product defect, oil field accident, refinery explosion, transportation accident, and liquor liability cases (reported by various news sources including CNN, USA Today, Business World and ABC News). He has also represented businesses and clients as plaintiffs and has obtained substantial verdicts and settlements on their behalf. Some of his more recent verdicts and accomplishments as lead trial counsel are set forth below.

In July 2015, Jeff represented a client with property in Mexico and Texas acquired during a 19-year period. Jeff's client was offered virtually no business assets in a complex and high asset/business divorce case. After a lengthy trial in the 388th District Court of El Paso County, Texas, the jury awarded \$23.7 million dollars to Jeff's client.

In May 2014, in Santa Fe, NM, Jeff defended a regionally and nationally publicized case involving the deaths of two teenage Navajo Nation girls and serious injuries to their parents. Jeff represented an international bar and restaurant corporation in a liquor liability case. The bar was accused of selling over 88 ounces of beer to a patron who left the bar and later rear-ended the family at a very high rate of speed. Plaintiffs demanded \$30 million at jury selection, and a multimillion dollar offer was rejected by plaintiffs. After a two week trial, the jury returned a complete defense verdict.

In 2012, Jeff acted as Plaintiffs' counsel for his clients. After a two week trial, he recorded the highest fraud verdict in Texas for 2012 when a jury awarded Jeff's clients over \$20 million. The verdict is ranked in the top 100 verdicts in the U.S. for 2012 and 2013, and has recently been recognized from 2012 to 2015 in the Texas Verdicts Hall of Fame.

From 2012 to 2016, Jeff has been the lead trial counsel for a major utility company in the largest wildfire in the history of Texas, the Bastrop Complex Fire Litigation, representing the utility against over 600 plaintiffs and 40 attorneys with damage claims totaling over \$450 million. Recently, Jeff's client secured a substantial confidential settlement on its cross claim in the fire litigation. The litigation is ongoing.

In 2009, Jeff represented a major pipeline company in an explosion case in New Mexico involving 27 plaintiffs. He defended the company in a multi-million dollar 2 ½ month trial. The plaintiffs demanded over \$50 million at jury selection. The jury returned a complete defense verdict for the natural gas corporation.



# JEFF RAY

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El Paso, TX  
San Antonio, TX

In 2008 and 2009, Jeff represented a major tire manufacturer in a multiple fatality/brain damage case in Texas. Plaintiffs demanded \$24 million. After a two week trial, the jury returned a complete defense verdict for the corporation.

In 2007 and 2008, Jeff and his trial team represented a worldwide clothing manufacturer in over 2,000 claims and cases filed by workers who had suffered various respiratory, formaldehyde and other related injuries. The cases were all pending in counties along the South Texas Border. After trying and securing four straight defense verdicts over the course of two years, the remaining cases were dismissed.

## — PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

El Paso Bar Association, Treasurer of the Board of Directors 2017-2018 • State Bar of Texas • State Bar of New Mexico • Texas Association of Defense Counsel • International Association of Defense Counsel • Defense Research Institute • New Mexico Defense Lawyers Association • American Bar Association • Christian Legal Society • Trucking Industry Defense Association • Speaker for the State Bar of Texas and other organizations on Litigation topics • San Antonio Bar Association

## — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- New Mexico
- U.S. District Courts, Western District of Texas, Southern District of Texas, Northern District of Texas, and Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico

## — OTHER PROFESSIONAL LISTINGS

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory • Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers • Best's Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys • Trial Attorneys of the Insurance Bar • West's Legal Directory • Texas Board of Legal Specialization • Directory of Board Certified Attorneys

## — PERSONAL

Jeff was born and raised in the small South Texas town of Cuero. His father was disabled and his mother was a leather factory laborer. Jeff worked his way through high school, college and law school by working as a musician, as a laborer in the South Texas oil fields, and offshore in the Gulf of Mexico as a floor and derrick hand for major drilling companies. His work ethic is unparalleled. He has also been awarded numerous professional and community awards for his service to others.

Jeff is married to Catalina Delgado-Ray. He is the proud father of three incredible children: Cristina, Sydney, and Joaquin "JJ" Ray.

- National Eagle Scout Association
- Texas High School Football Back to Back State Championship Teams (Co-Captain)
- Heroism Award for Life Saving Rescue
- Running, cycling, yoga, outdoor sports
- AOPA ( Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association)



# EL PASO

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## WILL ALDRETE

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*Office Location:*

*El Paso, TX*

*Albuquerque, NM*

### ■ EDUCATION

- Bowdoin College, Bachelor of Arts in English with Minor in Film Studies, 2012
- SMU Dedman School of Law, Juris Doctor, cum laude, 2016

### ■ LAW SCHOOL HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- International Law Review Association

### ■ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Aldrete came to RMJ after briefly working as a case manager for the U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Disaster Relief. During law school, he was a student attorney with the Consumer Advocacy Project. He worked on issues concerning landlord/tenant law, contract law, debt collection, and DTPA claims. He also engaged in the Clinic's advocacy projects, which included teaching at-risk communities about obtaining and maintaining good credit and researching payday loan reform. He has interned with a company, law firms, and the Texas Attorney General. Before beginning law school, he worked for a Social Security disability advocacy group in the greater Boston area.

### ■ PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

- El Paso Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association

### ■ COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 2016
- New Mexico, 2017

### ■ PERSONAL

- Born in San Antonio, Texas
- Raised in Floresville, Texas



## CHRIS M. BORUNDA

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Phone: (915) 832-7248

Office Location:  
El Paso, TX



- *Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization*
- *Texas Super Lawyer in Employment Litigation*
- *Texas Rising Star- Employment Litigation - 2006 & 2007*
- *AV Rated Attorney, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *Fellow of Litigation Counsel of America and Board of Directors El Paso Bar Association*
- *Shareholder*
- *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*

### — EDUCATION

- Bachelor Degree, St. Mary's University of San Antonio, 1990
- Doctor of Jurisprudence, Texas Tech University, 1993

### — HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Board of Directors El Paso Bar Association
- Chairperson of the El Paso Bar Association (Labor and Employment Law Section)
- Merit Certification for Municipal Law
- Named one of the Texas Super Lawyers Rising Stars in Employment Litigation, 2006 & 2007

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chris was licensed in 1994. She was an Assistant City Attorney for the City of El Paso, where she handled collective-bargaining negotiation, employment law and civil service issues. Chris was the City Attorney for the City of Socorro from May 2003 through February 2005.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

El Paso County Bar Association, State Bar of Texas, State Bar of Texas Labor and Employment Section, State Bar of Texas Local Government Bargaining Committee, Texas City Attorneys Association, Texas Public Employers Labor Relations Association, National and the Texas Public Employers Labor Relations Associations, Employment Law Committee of the Labor & Employment Law Section of the American Bar Association, The Litigation Counsel of America

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 1994
- U. S. District Court, Western District of Texas, 1995

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, West's Legal Directory, Texas Board of Legal Specialization, Directory of Board Certified Attorneys

### — PERSONAL

- Native of El Paso
- Proficient in both written and spoken Spanish



## ROBERT LEE EDWARDS

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*Office Location:*

*El Paso, TX*

*Albuquerque, NM*



### — EDUCATION

- The University of Texas at Austin, Bachelor of Arts in History
- Universidad Veritas, San Jose, Costa Rica
- St. Mary's University School of Law, Doctor of Jurisprudence

### — LAW SCHOOL HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Institute on World Legal Problems at the University of Innsbruck
- Distinguished Visiting Jurist Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonin Scalia
- Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity
- Legal Sports Society, Vice President
- St. Mary's Ask-a-Lawyer Clinic

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Robert L. Edwards has gained significant trial and appellate experience in Texas, New Mexico, and Federal courts in various fields of civil litigation, including commercial litigation, personal injury defense, probate litigation, bi-national litigation, dram shop defense, bankruptcy adversary proceedings, breach of fiduciary duty, minority shareholder oppression, insurance code violations, and evictions.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, State Bar of New Mexico, El Paso Bar Association, Texas Association of Defense Counsel

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- New Mexico
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit

### — PERSONAL

- Born in Port Arthur, Texas
- Spanish Language (intermediate)
- Volunteer, Medical Missionaries of Charity, Tamahu, Guatemala



# DAN HERNANDEZ

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Phone: (915) 832-7237

Office Location:

El Paso, TX

Albuquerque, NM



- *Shareholder*
- *Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization*

## — EDUCATION

- University of Texas at El Paso, (B.S. 1986)
- University of Denver School of Law, (J.D. 1991)
- Student Editor-in-Chief, American Bar Association Family Law Quarterly, University of Denver School of Law
- American Jurisprudence Award, University of Denver School of Law
- University of Denver Law School Judicial Fellow, Law Clerk, Honorable Raymond D. Jones of the Colorado Court of Appeals and Honorable Jeffrey Bayless of the Denver District Court

## — HONORS AND AWARDS:

- 2016 Investing in Our Community Award, Mexican-American Bar Association
- Vice President of the Board of Directors, El Paso Bar Association, 2017-18
- El Paso Bar Association Board of Directors 2013-15; Secretary 2015-16, Chair/Course Director, CLE Committee 2013-16, Chair, Mentorship Program, 2015-16, Treasurer 2016-17
- TADC, Board of Directors, 2016

## — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- El Paso City Attorney's Office, Trial Section, 1991-1995
- Ray, McChristian & Jeans, P.C., 1995-Present

Since 1991 Daniel has been an active trial lawyer, trying over 60 jury trials as lead counsel, and many more trials as part of trial teams as counsel for businesses, corporations, governments, employers, manufacturers, owners, insurance companies, and individuals. Daniel has tried cases in Texas and New Mexico in which he has achieved a favorable outcome and defense verdicts in over 90% of his cases. In 2015, Daniel obtained an improbable jury defense verdict in a personal injury lawsuit in which his client had been previously convicted of murder and engaging in organized criminal activity for the very same activity claimed in the lawsuit, and for which he is serving fifteen years in a Huntsville, Texas prison. Daniel has also handled many of his own trial verdicts on appeal with similar successful results. Daniel has tried over 150 administrative cases as lead counsel before Workers' Compensation agencies, and in South Texas, was part of a trial team which successfully defended a worldwide clothing manufacturer in over 2,000 worker claims involving respiratory exposure injuries. As a Board Certified Personal Injury attorney, Daniel has defended a variety of injury cases involving a large variety of accidents, including auto, trucking, bus, work sites, construction sites, premises products, fire, workers' compensation, and dog bites. Many of these cases are catastrophic death and injury cases involving auto and trucking accidents, which includes the handling and examination of a variety of experts in various professional specialties. Daniel also handles cases involving general civil liability, civil rights, deceptive trade practices, premises security, food-borne illnesses, property damage claims, inverse condemnation, first and third party insurance claims, and employment disputes such as discrimination and wrongful termination cases.

## — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

El Paso Bar Association, Vice President 2017-2018, State Bar of Texas, State Bar of New Mexico, El Paso Bar Foundation, College of the State Bar of Texas, Texas Association of Defense Counsel (TADC), Defense Research Institute (DRI), New Mexico Defense Lawyers Association (NMDLA), New Mexico Hispanic Bar Association, American Bar Association, past board member of El Paso Restaurant Association

## — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 1991
- New Mexico, 2008
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, Southern District of Texas and Northern District of Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico



# DAN HERNANDEZ

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## ■ REPORTED CASES

- *Daugherty v. City of El Paso*, 56 F3d 695 (5th Cir. 1995); *Myers v. City of El Paso*, 874 F.Supp. 1546 (W.D. Tex. 1995); *Parallax Corp. N.V. v. City of El Paso*, 910 S.W.2d 86 (Tex. App. -El Paso 1995)
- *Rodney Wayne Smith v. William Kimbhal, Richard Pena, Luis Silva and Vanessa Ortiz*; 09-50943; U.S. Court of Appeal, Fifth Circuit, New Orleans, LA
- *Clarence D. Brown v. Allison Taylor, Diana Lemon, Brian Costello, Avalon Corrections Services, Inc., and Carlos Morales*; 14-50388; U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, New Orleans, LA
- *Marc DeWayne Howell v. Collin County Detention Facility, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Baten ISF, Fort Worth Transitional Centers, and Tarrant County Jail*; 14-10485; U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, New Orleans, LA
- *Gregory Martino v. Kiewit New Mexico Co., Inc. and Martin Gomez*; 13-50425; U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, New Orleans, LA

## ■ SEMINARS & PUBLICATIONS

- *ATruckers Insurance Policies*, @ 9th Annual Ultimate Insurance Seminar. State Bar of Texas, 2000.
- *APremises Security: Liability for Violent Crimes and Adequate Security*, @ Associated Security Services and Investigators of the State of Texas. Sept. 2003.
- *ATexas Workers' Comp Update 2005*, @ Council on Education in Management. Jan. 2005.
- *ATexas Workers' Comp Update 2005*, @ Council on Education in Management. Sept. 2005.
- *AWorkers' Compensation in Texas*, @ Lorman Education Services. Sept. 2006.
- *ATake the Lead in Settlement and Mediation*, @ Settling Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Claims Seminar. National Business Institute. Dec. 2007.
- *ATrying a Champagne Case on Beer Budget*, @ El Paso Bar Association, Annual Civil Trial Practice Seminar, 2012.
- *AGender Bias – Lawyers Behaving Badly*, @ El Paso Bar Association, Annual Civil Trial Practice Seminar, 2013.
- *Mediation Techniques*, El Paso Bar Association, Annual Civil Trial Practice Seminar, 2014.
- *AiPads in Litigation and Trial*, El Paso Bar Association, Annual Civil Trial Practice Seminar, 015.

## ■ PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, Best's Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys and Adjusters, Trial Attorneys of the Insurance Bar, West's Legal Directory

## ■ PERSONAL

- Born and raised in El Paso, Texas
- Fluent in both spoken and written Spanish



## DAVID S. JEANS

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Office Location:  
El Paso, TX



- *Life Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation*
- *AV Rated Attorney, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *Best Lawyers in America – Litigation*
- *Named Texas Super Lawyer each year from 2003 to the present*
- *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*

### — EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Arts Degree, University of Kansas, 1970
- Doctor of Jurisprudence, University of Kansas, 1978

### — HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- 1977 Champion, National Collegiate Debate Competition
- 1977 Champion, Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition
- University of Kansas Law School Law Review

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

David began his legal career in 1978 with a large law firm in El Paso where he was a shareholder from 1982 until 1995. He left to join the firm presently known as Ray, McChristian & Jeans. He has practiced primarily in the areas of medical malpractice defense, railroad litigation, insurance defense and commercial litigation.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, El Paso County Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, American Bar Association, Defense Research Institute, National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel, Texas Association of Railroad Trial Lawyers, and Texas Association of Defense Counsel. He is a past president of the Federal Bar Association for the Western Region of Texas

- Frequent speaker for the State Bar of Texas through its Professional Development Program
- Frequent speaker for local and regional organizations

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 1978
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, 1979
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, 2009
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit, 1979

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers, Best's Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys and Adjusters, Trial Attorneys of the Insurance Bar, West's Legal Directory

### — PERSONAL

Native of Independence, Missouri



## ALDO LOPEZ

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*Office Location:  
El Paso, TX*

- *State Bar of Texas – District 17, Present, Director*

### – EDUCATION

- Trinity University San Antonio (B.A. Science, 2004)
- St. Mary's University School of Law (J.D., 2007)

### – HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Pro Bono Achievement Award
- Immigration & Human Rights Clinic
- New Mexico University/Texas Tech School of Law Summer Law Institute at Guanajuato, Mexico Summer 2006
- Student Bar Association
- Hispanic Law Student Association
- Health Law Association

### – PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Prior to joining RMJ as an associate, Aldo participated in prosecution and defense of commercial disputes, DTPA, unfair debt collection, foreclosures, wrongful foreclosures, landlord/tenant disputes, evictions, civil appeals & mandamus, various experience for creditors and debtors in Ch. 7, Ch. 13, and Ch.11 bankruptcies.

Eighth District Court of Appeals of Texas, Oct. 2007-Sept. 2009 Judicial Clerkship in the Chambers of Chief Justice David Wellington Chew.

Promoted to Research Attorney in Oct. 2008. Performed extensive legal research and drafted opinions in regular and accelerated criminal, civil, and juvenile appeals. Also, prepared memoranda for oral arguments and gave recommendations on motions before the court.

Center for Legal & Social Justice - St. Mary's University School of Law Immigration & Human Rights Clinic Student attorney prepared affidavits, evidence packets, and briefs. Conducted research and interviewed clients. Represented clients at Immigration Court hearings. Cases included removal, VAWA, and application for asylum.

### – PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Present Director of the State Bar of Texas – District 17, American Bar Association - Litigation Section, State Bar of Texas - Bankruptcy Section, Texas Young Lawyers' Association, Mexican American Bar Association (El Paso), Elected Officials Candidate Forum Panelist, El Paso Bar Association, El Paso Young Lawyers' Association

### – COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- United States District Court
- Western District of Texas and United States Bankruptcy Court
- Western District of Texas

### – PERSONAL

- Native of El Paso
- Proficient in both written and spoken Spanish



## JEFFREY T. LUCKY

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Albuquerque, NM



- *Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by Texas Board of Legal Specialization\**
- *Texas Super Lawyer*
- *AV Preeminent, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *Shareholder*

### — EDUCATION

- University of Texas at El Paso
- Texas Tech University B.A., 1974
- Baylor University Law School J.D., 1990

### — HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Baylor Law Review, 1989-1990
- Baylor Chapter of the Federalist Society (founding member)

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jeff has primarily been involved in product liability, general negligence defense, labor and employment litigation and commercial litigation with a large litigation firm in El Paso. He has been actively involved in trying various types of civil cases for more than 25 years.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Litigation Council of the State Bar of Texas, 1996 - 2004; El Paso Law Journal, Co-Editor; El Paso County Bar Association, 1997-1998; Editor, EP LAW, Journal of the El Paso Bar 1997-1998; Texas Super Lawyer, Texas Monthly Magazine, 2006, 2007 and 2008; El Paso County Bar Association, Member; El Paso Mexican American Bar Association, Member; Defense Research Institute, Member; El Paso County Bar Association, President 2003-2004; Litigation Section, Council Member, State Bar of Texas 1996-2004

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- New Mexico
- U.S. District Courts, Western District of Texas, Northern District of Texas, Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

- West's Legal Directory, Texas Board of Legal Specialization Directory of Board Certified Attorneys
- Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory

### — PERSONAL

- Born in El Paso, Texas
- Raised in southern New Mexico and in El Paso
- 12-year career in marketing and sales with Coca-Cola USA

*\*Such certification does not constitute recognition by the New Mexico Board of Legal Specialization.*



## JAMES (JIM) A. MOUNTS III

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- *Shareholder*

### — EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Arts degree, University of Virginia, 1982, with Distinction
- Texas Tech University School of Law, 1986

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mounts' practice focuses on providing insurance companies, rail and road carriers, employers and general industry with efficient and result-oriented legal representation in personal injury and general civil litigation.

Since 1986 Mr. Mounts has maintained an active trial docket of cases in the transportation, products liability and general liability areas in El Paso County and throughout West Texas. Mr. Mounts has defended multiple death motor vehicle accidents for various trucking and insurance carriers, all types of first and third party litigation for automobile and homeowner insurance carriers, third-party premises security cases for real property owners and managers, construction cases for owners and contractors, products liability, business dispute, and deceptive trade practices cases for business and industrial entities, and a large variety of other personal injury and civil litigation. Mr. Mounts has also defended employment litigation, including wrongful termination and retaliatory discharge suits.

In the course of his practice, Mr. Mounts has regularly worked in the development of defense-favorable experts and the cross-examination of opposition experts in a wide variety of fields, including orthopedics, neurology, toxicology, pulmonology, chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and many other professional specialties. Mr. Mounts has an impressive track record of taking the vast majority of cases he has tried to a zero verdict in favor of the defense.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, Texas Bar Association, Trucking Industry Defense Association, Transportation Lawyers Association

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 1986
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, 1989

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, West's Legal Directory



## RANDALL L. ORDONES

*E-mail: rordones@rmjfirm.com*

*Phone: (915) 832-7239*

*Office Location:  
El Paso, TX*

### ■ EDUCATION

- St. Mary's University School of Law, J.D., cum laude, 2016
- Tarleton State University, B.S., with honors, 2011

### ■ LAW SCHOOL HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- John M. Harlan Society
- St. Mary's Law Journal v. 47, staff writer
- Dean's List
- Top 6% of class
- Legal Research Assistant to Professor Colin Marks
- Recipient of the Dean's General Scholarship and William F. Bryan Scholarship

### ■ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

After a brief stint working in the insurance industry, Mr. Ordones went on to attend law school. Mr. Ordones excelled during law school, gaining valuable experience working as a law clerk at a top-tier construction litigation firm in San Antonio, Texas, an intern for the General Counsel's Office of the second largest federal credit union in Texas, a legal research assistant for his Contracts and Business Torts law school professor, and a staff writer on law journal.

### ■ PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, El Paso Bar Association

### ■ COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas

### ■ PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

- Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory

### ■ PERSONAL

Randall "Randy" Ordones was born and raised in Waco, Texas, graduating from Waco High School in 2006. Mr. Ordones went on to attend McLennan Community College, Baylor University, and Tarleton State University before graduating with his bachelor's degree in 2011. After a two-year stint working in the insurance industry, Mr. Ordones enrolled and attended St. Mary's University School of Law in San Antonio, Texas. Mr. Ordones excelled during law school, gaining valuable experience working as a legal intern for the second largest federal credit union in Texas (RBFCU), a law clerk at a top-tier San Antonio construction litigation firm, a staff writer for the St. Mary's Law Journal, and a research assistant for his Business Torts and Contracts professor. Mr. Ordones graduated with his Juris Doctorate in December 2016. In his free time, Mr. Ordones enjoys going for early morning runs, cooking, grilling, and watching the Dallas Cowboys, Texas Rangers, and San Antonio Spurs win. Mr. Ordones is excited to see everything El Paso has to offer.



## JEFF RAY

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Phone: (915) 832-7272  
(210) 348-1825

Office Location:  
Albuquerque, NM  
El Paso, TX  
San Antonio, TX

- *New Mexico and Texas Bar Licenses*
- *Board Certified - Personal Injury Trial Law Texas Board of Legal Specialization*
- *AV Preeminent Rated*
- *Life Fellow - Texas Bar Foundation*
- *National Panel Counsel For Major Insurers*
- *Texas Super Lawyer*
- *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*
- *2010 Outstanding Lawyer - El Paso Bar Association*
- *2012 Top 100 Verdicts in the U.S.*
- *El Paso Bar Association, Treasurer of the Board of Directors 2017-2018*
- *El Paso Bar Association, Secretary of the Board of Directors 2016-17*
- *2014 Inspiring Generosity Award - Mexican American Bar Association*
- *Texas Verdicts Hall of Fame - 2014*

### EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin (B.A. Honors, 1979)  
St. Mary's University School of Law (J.D., 1982)

- Dean's Honor List
- National Order of Barristers
- National Mock Trial Team
- Outstanding Trial Advocate of Law School
- Outstanding Appellate Advocate of Law School
- St. Mary's Law Journal
- Instructor, Legal Research and Brief Writing

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jeff is known as a trial lawyer who is one of the few lawyers who spends much of his time in court and in front of juries throughout the Southwest. He has tried or has been lead counsel in cases in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Ohio.

During his career, a number of Jeff's cases have received national recognition for defense verdicts in pipeline explosion, tire defect, automobile defect, product defect, oil field accident, refinery explosion, transportation accident, and liquor liability cases (reported by various news sources including CNN, USA Today, Business World and ABC News). He has also represented businesses and clients as plaintiffs and has obtained substantial verdicts and settlements on their behalf. Some of his more recent verdicts and accomplishments as lead trial counsel are set forth below.

In July 2015, Jeff represented a client with property in Mexico and Texas acquired during a 19-year period. Jeff's client was offered virtually no business assets in a complex and high asset/business divorce case. After a lengthy trial in the 388th District Court of El Paso County, Texas, the jury awarded \$23.7 million dollars to Jeff's client.

In May 2014, in Santa Fe, NM, Jeff defended a regionally and nationally publicized case involving the deaths of two teenage Navajo Nation girls and serious injuries to their parents. Jeff represented an international bar and restaurant corporation in a liquor liability case. The bar was accused of selling over 88 ounces of beer to a patron who left the bar and later rear-ended the family at a very high rate of speed. Plaintiffs demanded \$30 million at jury selection, and a multimillion dollar offer was rejected by plaintiffs. After a two week trial, the jury returned a complete defense verdict.

In 2012, Jeff acted as Plaintiffs' counsel for his clients. After a two week trial, he recorded the highest fraud verdict in Texas for 2012 when a jury awarded Jeff's clients over \$20 million. The verdict is ranked in the top 100 verdicts in the U.S. for 2012 and 2013, and has recently been recognized from 2012 to 2015 in the Texas Verdicts Hall of Fame.

From 2012 to 2016, Jeff has been the lead trial counsel for a major utility company in the largest wildfire in the history of Texas, the Bastrop Complex Fire Litigation, representing the utility against over 600 plaintiffs and 40 attorneys with damage claims totaling over \$450 million. Recently, Jeff's client secured a substantial confidential settlement on its cross claim in the fire litigation. The litigation is ongoing.

In 2009, Jeff represented a major pipeline company in an explosion case in New Mexico involving 27 plaintiffs. He defended the company in a multi-million dollar 2 ½ month trial. The plaintiffs demanded over \$50 million at jury selection. The jury returned a complete defense verdict for the natural gas corporation.





## JEFF RAY

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(210) 348-1825

Office Location:

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El Paso, TX

San Antonio, TX



Pg 2 of 2

In 2008 and 2009, Jeff represented a major tire manufacturer in a multiple fatality/brain damage case in Texas. Plaintiffs demanded \$24 million. After a two week trial, the jury returned a complete defense verdict for the corporation.

In 2007 and 2008, Jeff and his trial team represented a worldwide clothing manufacturer in over 2,000 claims and cases filed by workers who had suffered various respiratory, formaldehyde and other related injuries. The cases were all pending in counties along the South Texas Border. After trying and securing four straight defense verdicts over the course of two years, the remaining cases were dismissed.

### — PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

El Paso Bar Association, Treasurer of the Board of Directors 2017-2018 • State Bar of Texas • State Bar of New Mexico • Texas Association of Defense Counsel • International Association of Defense Counsel • Defense Research Institute • New Mexico Defense Lawyers Association • American Bar Association • Christian Legal Society • Trucking Industry Defense Association • Speaker for the State Bar of Texas and other organizations on Litigation topics • San Antonio Bar Association

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- New Mexico
- U.S. District Courts, Western District of Texas, Southern District of Texas, Northern District of Texas, and Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico

### — OTHER PROFESSIONAL LISTINGS

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory • Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers • Best's Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys • Trial Attorneys of the Insurance Bar • West's Legal Directory • Texas Board of Legal Specialization • Directory of Board Certified Attorneys

### — PERSONAL

Jeff was born and raised in the small South Texas town of Cuero. His father was disabled and his mother was a leather factory laborer. Jeff worked his way through high school, college and law school by working as a musician, as a laborer in the South Texas oil fields, and offshore in the Gulf of Mexico as a floor and derrick hand for major drilling companies. His work ethic is unparalleled. He has also been awarded numerous professional and community awards for his service to others.

Jeff is married to Catalina Delgado-Ray. He is the proud father of three incredible children: Cristina, Sydney, and Joaquin "JJ" Ray.

- National Eagle Scout Association
- Texas High School Football Back to Back State Championship Teams (Co-Captain)
- Heroism Award for Life Saving Rescue
- Running, cycling, yoga, outdoor sports
- AOPA ( Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association)





## ALEX SOTO

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*Phone: (915) 832-7289*

*Office Location:*

*El Paso, TX*

### ■ EDUCATION

- The Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez (Law School).

### ■ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Prior and after completion of his studies, Alex practiced in the Mexican Customs Department and with prominent law firms in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, in areas such as Civil, Commercial, Tax and Customs litigation, Corporate, Real Estate and Administrative Law. Alex was involved with the establishment and corporate organization of several "Maquiladora" industries in Ciudad Juarez and Mexico City. He also practiced as a General Counselor for two customs brokers in Ciudad Juarez and El Paso, Texas, planning legal solutions and developing new strategies for their daily import and export operations. Alex is a licensed Private Investigator in the State of Texas.

### ■ PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

- American Bar Association (ABA)
- Greater El Paso Association of Realtors (GEPAR)
- US-Mexico Bar Association

### ■ COURT ADMISSIONS

- Mexico



## MARISA YBARRA

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Phone: (915) 832-7215

Office Location:

El Paso, TX



- *National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel (NARTC)*
- *The Litigation Counsel of America*
- *Shareholder*

### — EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin School of Law, J.D.

- Associate Editor for the Texas Hispanic Journal On Law And Policy
- Project leader for the UT Environmental Law Clinic

The University of Texas El Paso, B.A. Political Science, minor in Chicano Studies

- Presented paper at the Women, Power and Politics Conference
- Delegate, International Missions on Diplomacy in China

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Marisa Ybarra joined Ray, McChristian & Jeans in 2013 as a litigation associate after practicing for five years with a small civil litigation firm in El Paso, Texas. She is a resident in the firm's El Paso and San Antonio offices and focuses on litigation related matters. Marisa is a trial attorney experienced in representing corporate, industry, transportation, and commercial clients. She has successfully resolved six and seven-figure exposure cases through mediation and motion practice both in State and Federal Court. As first trial chair, Marisa obtained a defense verdict where the plaintiff requested seven figures in damages.

During the last two-years of law school, Marisa was employed as a law clerk with a small civil litigation firm in Austin, Texas. During her first and second summers, she was a legal intern with the Honorable Kathleen Cardone, District Judge, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas and the Honorable Phil Martinez, District Judge, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas. While attending the University of Texas at El Paso, Marisa was a legal intern for the Texas 8th Court of Appeals. Prior to attending law school, Marisa enjoyed a career in politics and worked for political campaigns ranging from the President of the United States to local school board races.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

- State Bar of Texas
- Texas Association of Defense Counsel
- El Paso Bar Assoc.
- National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel (NARTC)
- The George A. McAlmon Inn of Court Invitation
- Texas Association of Defense Counsel
- The Litigation Counsel of America
- Author/Lecturer, National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel (NARTC) - various topics
- Author/Lecturer, National Business Institute
- Author/Lecturer, University of Texas at El Paso - various topics

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 2009
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, 2009

### — PERSONAL

- Raised in El Paso, Texas
- Fluent in English and Spanish

# SAN ANTONIO

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*San Antonio, TX 78205*

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## LOUIS A. GROSS

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*Phone: (210) 348-1822*

*Office Location:  
San Antonio, TX*

**Super Lawyers**  
RISING STARS

### — EDUCATION

- University of Texas at San Antonio, Texas, 2005, *B.A. in History*
- St. Mary's University School of Law, San Antonio, Texas, 2008, *Doctor of Jurisprudence*

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

A native of San Antonio, Louis worked for the Department of Justice in the Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee. While in Law School Louis served as a Summer Intern for the United States Attorney's Office, Western District of Texas, and a Judicial Intern for the Honorable Fred Biery, United States District Court, Western District of Texas. Louis is experienced in a broad range of litigation matters.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, San Antonio Young Lawyers Association, Defense Counsel of San Antonio

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 2008
- New Mexico, 2009

### — PERSONAL

Louis enjoys basketball, softball, mountain biking, road cycling and spending time with his wife and two children Benjamin and Amelia.



## JENNIFER KAUFMAN

*E-mail: [jkaufman@rmjfirm.com](mailto:jkaufman@rmjfirm.com)*

*Phone: (210) 348-1816*

*Office Location:*

*San Antonio, TX*

### ■ EDUCATION

-Southern Methodist University (B.A., 2007)

- South Texas College of Law (J.D., 2012)

### ■ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Before joining the firm, Jennifer was an Assistant City Attorney for the City of San Antonio. During law school, she interned for the General Counsel of The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and a civil litigation firm. Prior to law school, Jennifer was a litigation clerk at a large law firm in Houston.

### ■ PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, San Antonio Young Lawyers Association, Bexar County Women's Bar Association

### ■ COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 2012

### ■ PERSONAL

Jennifer is actively involved with The Junior League of San Antonio, Inc. and enjoys spending time with her family and working out.



## JOSEPH G. PEÑA

E-mail: [jpena@rmjfirm.com](mailto:jpena@rmjfirm.com)

Phone: (210) 348-1813

Office Location:

San Antonio, TX



- *Named one of San Antonio's Rising Stars in the legal profession by Scene in SA Monthly (2010-present)*
- *Shareholder*

### — EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Arts, Economics, St. Mary's University
- Doctor of Jurisprudence, St. Mary's University School of Law

### — HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Selected as one of the Best Lawyers in San Antonio by Scene in SA Magazine (2010-present)
- Named a Rising Star in the San Antonio legal community by Scene in SA Magazine
- Joe F. Brown endowed scholarship recipient
- Phi Delta Phi

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Prior to joining Ray, McChristian & Jeans, Mr. Peña was an attorney in the San Antonio office of a well established San Antonio civil litigation firm. Mr. Peña has trial experience in transportation, construction defect, product liability, and commercial claims. Mr. Peña serves as general counsel to several non-profit organizations and serves on the board of directors of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Alumni Volunteer Corporation.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, American Bar Association, San Antonio Bar Association, San Antonio Young Lawyers Association

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas

### — PERSONAL

In his spare time Mr. Peña enjoys camping, tennis, and mountain biking.



## WILLIAM POWERS

E-mail: [wpowers@rmjfirm.com](mailto:wpowers@rmjfirm.com)

Phone: (210) 820-8436

Office Location:

San Antonio, TX



- *AV Rated Attorney, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *Panel Counsel for Major Insurers*
- *Solicitor, England & Wales*
- *Shareholder*
- *Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization*
- *San Antonio Scene Magazine Best Lawyers 2015, peer recognition.*

### — EDUCATION

- John Marshall High School, San Antonio, Texas (1970)
- United States Coast Guard Academy, Bachelor of Science Degree (1974)
- St. Mary's University School of Law (J.D. 1981)

### — HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

Freshman Moot Court, Finalist and Runner-Up Best Speaker. Law Review: Staff, St. Mary's Law Journal, 1981. Two published articles, St. Mary's Law Journal: Note, "Mines and Minerals-Mineral Reservation-Surface Ownership Includes At Surface Substances and Those Near Surface Substances Whose Removal Involves Destruction of Surface By Any Reasonable Method Known at Time Extraction is Planned," 12 St. Mary's Law Journal 580-600, 1980; "Oil and Gas Programs and Broker-Dealer Securities Registration Ramifications," 13 St. Mary's Law Journal 803-824, 1982. Master of the Bench, William S. Sessions American Inn of Court.

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

After serving in the U.S. Coast Guard as a Marine Inspector and Deck Watch Officer 1974-1979, Bill attended St. Mary's School of Law, and graduated in 1981. Since graduation, he has specialized as trial counsel in product liability, general negligence, premises liability, maritime, and commercial litigation with large litigation firms in San Antonio.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Board Certified, State Bar of Texas, American Bar Association, San Antonio Bar Association, The Law Society of England and Wales, Claims And Litigation Management (CLM) Alliance.

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 1982
- U.S. District Courts, Western District of Texas
- Southern District of Texas, 1989
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit, 1989
- The Supreme Court of Judicature, England and Wales, 1999

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory AV Rated, Texas Board of Legal Specialization Directory of Board Certified Attorneys, The Directory of Solicitors and Barristers, The Law Society of England & Wales

### — PERSONAL

Born in Buffalo, New York and raised in Buffalo, New York; Hershey, Pennsylvania; and San Antonio, Texas. Yachtsman and Golfer.



## JEFF RAY

E-mail: [jray@rmjfirm.com](mailto:jray@rmjfirm.com)

Phone: (915) 832-7272  
(210) 348-1825

Office Location:  
Albuquerque, NM  
El Paso, TX  
San Antonio, TX



- *New Mexico and Texas Bar Licenses*
- *Board Certified - Personal Injury Trial Law Texas Board of Legal Specialization*
- *AV Preeminent Rated*
- *Life Fellow - Texas Bar Foundation*
- *National Panel Counsel For Major Insurers*
- *Texas Super Lawyer*
- *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*
- *2010 Outstanding Lawyer - El Paso Bar Association*
- *2012 Top 100 Verdicts in the U.S.*
- *El Paso Bar Association, Treasurer of the Board of Directors 2017-2018*
- *El Paso Bar Association, Secretary of the Board of Directors 2016-17*
- *2014 Inspiring Generosity Award - Mexican American Bar Association*
- *Texas Verdicts Hall of Fame - 2014*

### EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin (B.A. Honors, 1979)  
St. Mary's University School of Law (J.D., 1982)

- Dean's Honor List
- National Order of Barristers
- National Mock Trial Team
- Outstanding Trial Advocate of Law School
- Outstanding Appellate Advocate of Law School
- St. Mary's Law Journal
- Instructor, Legal Research and Brief Writing

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jeff is known as a trial lawyer who is one of the few lawyers who spends much of his time in court and in front of juries throughout the Southwest. He has tried or has been lead counsel in cases in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Ohio.

During his career, a number of Jeff's cases have received national recognition for defense verdicts in pipeline explosion, tire defect, automobile defect, product defect, oil field accident, refinery explosion, transportation accident, and liquor liability cases (reported by various news sources including CNN, USA Today, Business World and ABC News). He has also represented businesses and clients as plaintiffs and has obtained substantial verdicts and settlements on their behalf. Some of his more recent verdicts and accomplishments as lead trial counsel are set forth below.

In July 2015, Jeff represented a client with property in Mexico and Texas acquired during a 19-year period. Jeff's client was offered virtually no business assets in a complex and high asset/business divorce case. After a lengthy trial in the 388th District Court of El Paso County, Texas, the jury awarded \$23.7 million dollars to Jeff's client.

In May 2014, in Santa Fe, NM, Jeff defended a regionally and nationally publicized case involving the deaths of two teenage Navajo Nation girls and serious injuries to their parents. Jeff represented an international bar and restaurant corporation in a liquor liability case. The bar was accused of selling over 88 ounces of beer to a patron who left the bar and later rear-ended the family at a very high rate of speed. Plaintiffs demanded \$30 million at jury selection, and a multimillion dollar offer was rejected by plaintiffs. After a two week trial, the jury returned a complete defense verdict.

In 2012, Jeff acted as Plaintiffs' counsel for his clients. After a two week trial, he recorded the highest fraud verdict in Texas for 2012 when a jury awarded Jeff's clients over \$20 million. The verdict is ranked in the top 100 verdicts in the U.S. for 2012 and 2013, and has recently been recognized from 2012 to 2015 in the Texas Verdicts Hall of Fame.

From 2012 to 2016, Jeff has been the lead trial counsel for a major utility company in the largest wildfire in the history of Texas, the Bastrop Complex Fire Litigation, representing the utility against over 600 plaintiffs and 40 attorneys with damage claims totaling over \$450 million. Recently, Jeff's client secured a substantial confidential settlement on its cross claim in the fire litigation. The litigation is ongoing.

In 2009, Jeff represented a major pipeline company in an explosion case in New Mexico involving 27 plaintiffs. He defended the company in a multi-million dollar 2 ½ month trial. The plaintiffs demanded over \$50 million at jury selection. The jury returned a complete defense verdict for the natural gas corporation.



# JEFF RAY

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*El Paso, TX*

*San Antonio, TX*

In 2008 and 2009, Jeff represented a major tire manufacturer in a multiple fatality/brain damage case in Texas. Plaintiffs demanded \$24 million. After a two week trial, the jury returned a complete defense verdict for the corporation.

In 2007 and 2008, Jeff and his trial team represented a worldwide clothing manufacturer in over 2,000 claims and cases filed by workers who had suffered various respiratory, formaldehyde and other related injuries. The cases were all pending in counties along the South Texas Border. After trying and securing four straight defense verdicts over the course of two years, the remaining cases were dismissed.

## — PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

El Paso Bar Association, Treasurer of the Board of Directors 2017-2018 • State Bar of Texas • State Bar of New Mexico • Texas Association of Defense Counsel • International Association of Defense Counsel • Defense Research Institute • New Mexico Defense Lawyers Association • American Bar Association • Christian Legal Society • Trucking Industry Defense Association • Speaker for the State Bar of Texas and other organizations on Litigation topics • San Antonio Bar Association • El Paso Bar Association

## — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- New Mexico
- U.S. District Courts, Western District of Texas, Southern District of Texas, Northern District of Texas, and Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico

## — OTHER PROFESSIONAL LISTINGS

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory • Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers • Best's Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys • Trial Attorneys of the Insurance Bar • West's Legal Directory • Texas Board of Legal Specialization • Directory of Board Certified Attorneys

## — PERSONAL

Jeff was born and raised in the small South Texas town of Cuero. His father was disabled and his mother was a leather factory laborer. Jeff worked his way through high school, college and law school by working as a musician, as a laborer in the South Texas oil fields, and offshore in the Gulf of Mexico as a floor and derrick hand for major drilling companies. His work ethic is unparalleled. He has also been awarded numerous professional and community awards for his service to others.

Jeff is married to Catalina Delgado-Ray. He is the proud father of three incredible children: Cristina, Sydney, and Joaquin "JJ" Ray.

- National Eagle Scout Association
- Texas High School Football Back to Back State Championship Teams (Co-Captain)
- Heroism Award for Life Saving Rescue
- Running, cycling, yoga, outdoor sports
- AOPA (Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association)



## HAROLD "BUDDY" SOCKS

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Phone: (210) 820-8438

Office Location:  
San Antonio, TX



- *Shareholder*
- *AV Rated Attorney, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*

### — EDUCATION

- Washington University in St. Louis, 1983 Bachelor of Arts
- Southern Methodist University School of Law, 1986, JD

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

After graduating from Southern Methodist University School of Law Buddy practiced for three years in Dallas, Texas handling commercial litigation matters for both plaintiffs and defendants. Buddy moved to San Antonio in 1989 where he continued to handle commercial litigation matters as his primary practice area with insurance defense matters as his secondary practice area in state and federal courts throughout Texas. In the past twenty-two years, Buddy has represented plaintiff and defendant clients in a wide variety of commercial matters including suits based on contracts, partnership agreements, the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act, fraud and business torts over subject matters as diverse as financial services, real estate, oil & gas, and aircraft modifications and sales. While Buddy's primary focus is litigation involving commercial disputes, he has continued to represent insureds throughout his career. Buddy's representation of insureds includes the defense of claims arising out of major vehicle/truck accidents, aviation related injuries, and a variety of general negligence claims.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

- State Bar of Texas
- American Bar Association
- San Antonio Bar Association
- Instructor for the National Institutes of Trial Advocacy

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- U.S. District Courts for the Northern
- Southern Eastern and Western Districts of Texas
- Eastern District of Louisiana
- Southern District of New York
- U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fifth and Federal Circuits

### — PERSONAL

Born 1960, Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, two children: Stuart and Emily

# FORT WORTH

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## MICHAEL K. DEAN

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- *AV Rated Attorney, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*
- *Shareholder*

### ■ EDUCATION

- Brigham Young University (B.A. 1990)
- Baylor University School of Law (J.D. 1993)

### ■ HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Order of Barristers
- Harvey M. Richey Moot Court Competition Quarterfinalist
- Phi Delta Phi
- Honors List

### ■ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

After graduating from law school, Mr. Dean accepted a position with the Court of Appeals for the Seventh District of Texas as a briefing attorney for the Honorable Carlton B. Dodson. Mr. Dean served in that capacity until he joined the firm in 1995.

Mr. Dean specializes in the areas of professional malpractice, commercial litigation, products liability, premises liability, construction accidents, railroad and trucking litigation, general insurance defense, worker's compensation, and appellate matters.

### ■ PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, State Bar of Arizona, Utah State Bar, Texas Association of Defense Counsel (TADC), Defense Research Institute (DRI), National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel (NARTC), Claims & Litigation Management Alliance (CLM), Tarrant County Bar Association, J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Fort Worth Claims Association

### ■ COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 1993
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, 1995
- U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, 1999
- Utah, 1999
- Arizona, 2000
- U.S. District Court, District of Arizona, 2000
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, 2004
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas, 2014
- Oklahoma, 2015

### ■ PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers, West's Legal Directory

### ■ REPORTED CASES:

- Slagle v. Prickett, 345 S.W.3d 693 (Tex. App.—El Paso 2011, no pet.)
- Medina v. Ramsey Steel Co., Inc., 238 F.3d 674 (5th Cir. 2001)

### ■ SEMINARS & PUBLICATIONS:

- Theresa J. Puleo & Michael K. Dean, Spoliation of Evidence, in THE THIRD REVISED LITIGATOR'S NOTEBOOK 708-21 (National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel, 2002)
- "Liens: What You Don't Know Could Hurt You," Fort Worth Claims Association, April 2008
- Theresa J. Puleo & Michael K. Dean, Spoliation of Evidence, in THE RAILROAD LITIGATOR'S NOTEBOOK 921-44 (National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel, 4th ed., 2010)

### ■ PERSONAL

- Proficient in Spanish
- Private Pilot



## EMILY HOLLENBECK

*E-mail: [ehollenbeck@rmjfirm.com](mailto:ehollenbeck@rmjfirm.com)*

*Phone: (817) 333-2826*

*Office Location: Fort Worth, TX*

### ■ EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies, Texas Christian University, 2005
- Doctor of Jurisprudence, Baylor Law, 2008

### ■ HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Order of the Barristers
- Dean's List
- Student Bar Association, President and Parliamentarian
- High A in Environmental Law

### ■ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Emily was licensed by the State Bar of Texas in 2008. Emily is a litigation attorney with experience in a broad variety of practice areas including, healthcare law, personal injury, and civil rights matters. She has represented physicians, independent school districts, and private detention facilities. She also has

- experience representing insurance companies in first-party insurance disputes. Emily has spent half of her career working at small insurance defense firms and the other half working for third party administrators. In addition to her bar license, Emily maintains an insurance adjusters license in the State of Texas.

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

- State Bar of Texas
- Texas Young Lawyers
- - American Bar Association
- Tarrant County Bar Association
- Tarrant County Young Lawyers
- - Texas Department of Insurance - Licensed Adjuster
- Junior League of Fort Worth

### COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 2008

### PERSONAL

Emily was born and raised in Joshua, Texas. She currently resides in Burleson, Texas with her two-year old son, Tad.



## JOHN W. McCHRISTIAN, JR.

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Office Location:

Fort Worth, TX

El Paso, TX

Albuquerque, NM



- *Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization*
- *AV Rated Attorney, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*
- *American Board of Trial Advocates*
- *Texas Super Lawyer*

### — EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Arts degree, North Texas State University, 1977
- Doctor of Jurisprudence, St. Mary's University School of Law, 1981

### — HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Phi Alpha Delta
- 1976 Texas State Collegiate Debate Champion, North Texas State University
- 1980 Texas State Moot Court Champion, St. Mary's University School of Law
- Law Review: St. Mary's Law Review
- Member, National Order of Barristers

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In 1981, John joined a large El Paso law firm as a personal injury and commercial litigator. He subsequently became a partner in the firm and remained there until February 1990, when he left to join the law firm presently known as Ray, McChristian & Jeans.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, Defense Research Institute, American Board of Trial Advocates, National Association of Railroad Trial Lawyers, Texas Association of Railroad Trial Lawyers, American Bar Association, and local bar associations

John has published articles in law school and as an attorney relating to various legal topics.

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 1981
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, 2003
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, 1983
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers, Best's Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys and Adjusters, Trial Attorneys of the Insurance Bar, West's Legal Directory, Texas Board of Legal Specialization Directory of Board Certified Attorneys

### — PERSONAL

Born in Big Spring, Texas and raised in Big Spring, Texas and El Dorado, Kansas



## SUNNY L. SMITH

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Office Location:

Fort Worth, TX



- *AV Rated Attorney, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*
- *Texas Rising Star 2013 ( Texas Monthly Magazine )*
- *Shareholder*

### — EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Arts in History, magna cum laude, Texas Wesleyan University, 1996
- Doctor of Jurisprudence, Baylor University School of Law, 1999

### — HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Baylor Law Review, Assistant Managing Editor
- Phi Alpha Delta, Chapter Justice, Baylor Law Chapter
- Mortar Board National Honor Society, Chapter President
- Alpha Chi National Honor Society, Chapter Chair, Professional Committee
- Hatton W. Summers Scholar

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

While in law school, Sunny clerked at the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office in the Crimes Against Children Unit. Before joining Ray, McChristian & Jeans, Sunny was an associate at a Houston litigation boutique, where her practice centered on securities and complex litigation.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, Texas Young Lawyers Association, Fort Worth-Tarrant County Young Lawyers Association, Tarrant County Bar Association, Texas Association of Defense Counsel

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 2000
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, 2004

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

- Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, West's Legal Directory
- Co-Author, Proximate Cause and the Loss of Chance Doctrine, Advanced Medical Malpractice Course, 2003

### — PERSONAL

Born and raised in the Fort Worth, Texas area



## JAMES G. STOUFFER, JR.

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Phone: (817) 333-2824

Office Location: Fort Worth, TX



- *Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization*
- *AV Rated Attorney, Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*
- *American Board of Trial Advocates*
- *Texas Super Lawyer 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008*
- *Mid-South (Arkansas) Super Lawyer 2008, 2009, 2010 & 2011*
- *Shareholder*

### — EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Science degree, Stephen F. Austin State University, 1978
- Doctor of Jurisprudence, University of Houston Law Center, 1984

### — PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In 1984, Mr. Stouffer joined a Victoria, Texas law firm as a personal injury and commercial litigator. He subsequently became a partner in the firm and remained there until May 1990, returning to his hometown of Fort Worth where he practiced until 2008. He moved to Little Rock, Arkansas to serve Of Counsel to Kutak Rock, L.L.P.. In July 2011, Mr. Stouffer returned to Fort Worth to practice at RMJ.

### — PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, Defense Research Institute, Arkansas Bar Association, American Board of Trial Advocates, and Tarrant County Bar Association

### — COURT ADMISSIONS

- Texas, 1984; Arkansas, 2008
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, 1985
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas, 2007
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, 1990
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, 2011
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Arkansas, 2009
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Arkansas, 2009
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit, 1987

### — PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE

- Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, Texas Board of Legal Specialization Directory of Board Certified Attorneys

### — PERSONAL

- Born in Fort Worth, Texas
- Active at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Fort Worth