# MUNSCH HARDT

Dallas Austin Houston

Attorneys & Counselors



## **Overview**

Craig is a trial lawyer with more than 30 years of experience serving the needs of established companies, growing businesses and entrepreneurs in commercial, restaurant, employment, intellectual property and oil and gas litigation and other general business matters.

Craig has a reputation for aggressively and successfully representing the interests of his clients. He has extensive trial experience in both state and federal courts, having handled hundreds of commercial and restaurant-related litigation matters, including lease disputes and exit strategies, employment litigation and discrimination, trade secrets and non-compete agreements, contracts. minority shareholder issues and partnership disputes, sexual harassment, Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) wage and hour claims, dram shop liability and employee theft and asset recovery. Craig also handles matters related to intellectual property and trademark enforcement, as well as oil and gas litigation. In many instances, Craig also serves as outside General Counsel to many of his clients.

Craig's level of commitment and service to his clients is one of the primary reasons clients turn to him again and again when they need legal representation. Craig has become adept at applying his insights to his clients' businesses and industry sectors to the specific case at hand, and each matter is handled according to his clients' business goals to achieve their objectives.

# A. Harris

Shareholder Dallas 500 N. Akard Street, Suite 4000 Dallas, Texas 75201 O: 214.855.7500 D: 214.855.7590 charris@munsch.com

#### Education

- J.D. from St. Mary's University School of Law
  - St. Mary's Law Journal
  - Phi Delta Phi Honor Society
  - Dean's List
- B.B.A. from Texas A&M University

#### **Bar Admissions**

#### Texas

United States Supreme Court

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth and Sixth Circuits

United States District Court for the Eastern, Northern, Southern and Western Districts of Texas

#### **Related Practices**

Labor & Employment Covenants Not to Compete **Employment Litigation** FI SA Trade Secrets Litigation **Director & Officer Litigation** Employment Litigation



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Energy Litigation Intellectual Property Litigation Real Estate Litigation Trade Secrets

#### **Related Industries**

Energy Hospitality Restaurants

#### Achievements

Dallas Bar Foundation – Fellow *Martindale-Hubbell*<sup>®</sup> AV Preeminent<sup>®</sup>, Peer Review Rated<sup>™</sup>

#### **Memberships**

Dallas Bar Association, Business Litigation, Trial Skills and Labor & Employment Sections

Federal Bar Association

International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP)

Texas Aggie Bar Association

Texas Bar Foundation (Fellow)

Texas Restaurant Association (Education Committee, Greater Dallas Chapter)

## Experience

#### **Complex Business Claims**

Represents large and small business entities and individuals in the prosecution and defense of complex business claims, including, breach of contract, fraud, misrepresentation, breach of fiduciary duty and violations of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act.

#### **Real Estate Litigation**

Represented a real estate developer in a non-jury trial against a municipality. Successfully proved a rezoning constituted an unconstitutional taking, and recovered the related economic damages in a jury trial.

#### Lease Lawsuits

Successfully represented both tenants and landlords in breach of lease cases.



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#### **Real Estate Litigation**

Represented a real estate developer in a lawsuit arising out of an alleged breach of contract concerning three properties owned by a nationally renowned retail chain.

#### Wrongful Termination Claims

Represented municipalities in trials of wrongful termination claims.

#### **Misappropriation Claims**

Represented a business in prosecuting claims of misappropriation of trade secrets, breach of fiduciary duty and other claims totaling \$7 MM in damages.

#### Audit Malpractice Litigation

Defended an accounting firm accused of auditing malpractice, allegedly causing millions of dollars in damages to the purchaser of an oil and gas exploration company.

#### **Real Estate Litigation**

Represented the seller of real property accused of fraud in conjunction with the sale of a multi-million dollar ranch property.

#### **Real Estate Litigation**

Represented the developer of a high-rise, high-dollar condominium building in resolving multiple lawsuits brought by purchasers alleging fraud, deceptive trade practices, breach of contract, construction defects and other claims.

#### **Trademark Infringement**

Represented a business in a trademark infringement lawsuit involving an international and United States trademark.

#### **Factoring Company Representation**

Represented a factoring company accused of alleged fraud, deceptive trade practices and breach of contract causing the demise of a manufacturing business.

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#### **Real Estate Litigation**

Represented numerous clients in lawsuits regarding title to real property, including trial and summary judgments.

#### **Malpractice Claims**

Represented an architectural and engineering firm in a malpractice claim regarding a multi-million dollar cost overrun on a \$212 MM guaranteed maximum price contract for the expansion of an Oklahoma food plant.

#### Mechanic's Lien Claims

Represented a business and defeated more than \$500,000 in mechanics' lien claims against the owner/developer of a hotel property after the general contractor walked off the job.

#### **Receivership Representation**

Represented a state court-appointed receiver in an extensive, hotly contested, four-plus-year receivership proceeding involving numerous parties; representation included recovering millions of dollars for defrauded hedge fund investors by prosecuting litigation in Texas, New York, California and the British Virgin Islands.

#### Oil & Gas Litigation

Represented clients against claims of alleged fraud and misrepresentation asserted by a seller seeking to rescind the sale of a Barnett Shale gas property.

#### **Title Disputes**

Represented a client in a title dispute regarding a million dollar home; obtained summary judgment and successfully settled the case on appeal.

#### **Foreign Service of Process**

Represented a client and overturned a default judgment against a German company at the district court and Dallas Court of Appeals involving foreign service of process issues.

#### **Airplane Sale Representation**

Represented a Canadian seller of a multi-million dollar airplane and defeated a petition for temporary and permanent injunctions.

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#### Insurance Litigation + Appeal

Represented a client and obtained summary judgment against an insurer that denied coverage involving a rented automobile and successfully recovered more than \$500,000 in attorneys' fees by jury trial; the case settled on appeal.

#### **Sexual Harassment Claim**

Represented a client and obtained summary judgment on a sexual harassment claim against an automobile dealership in Navarro, Texas.

#### Nonsubscriber Litigation

Represented nonsubscribers, numerous businesses, municipalities and the Texas Department of Transportation and successfully defended personal injury cases at trial.

#### **Bankruptcy Litigation + Appeal**

Successfully represented a bank in a four-week trial in bankruptcy court and the subsequent appeals to the federal district court and the Fifth Circuit involving stay violations.

### Newsroom

Newsletter: OSHA Alert: Guidance for Restaurants & Beverage Vendors Offering Takeout or Curbside Pickup

Newsletter: COVID-19: Dallas Code Compliance - Notices of Violation

**Newsletter**: Governor Abbott Waives Certain Regulations To Allow Delivery Of Alcohol From Restaurants & To Support Hospitality Industry

In The News: Midsize Moves: A Texas Restaurant Practice, an LA Labor Lawyer

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Launches Texas Restaurant Practice

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Announces 2019 Promotions to Equity Shareholder and Shareholder

In The News: Experts Outline the Hotel Industry's Top Legal Hurdles

In The News: Law360 Covers Addition of Craig Harris in Dallas Office

Press Release: Experienced Trial Lawyer Craig Harris Joins Munsch Hardt's Growing Litigation Practice