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Education

J.D. from Boston University School of Law B.S. from Calvin College

Bar Admissions

Texas

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit United States District Court for the Eastern, Northern, Southern and Western Districts of Texas United States Supreme Court

Related Practices

Bankruptcy, Restructuring & Insolvency
Fraud & Asset Recovery
Insolvency Litigation
Receiverships
Litigation
Appellate
Arbitration
Energy Litigation

Related Industries

Financial Services

Overview

Dennis has broad litigation experience in state and federal courts, arbitration proceedings and bankruptcy-related matters. He has subject matter expertise in insurance coverage, personal injury defense, telecommunications, securities fraud, commercial disputes, oil and gas, real estate, fair housing, health care, code enforcement, fiduciary malpractice, receiverships, bankruptcy and cross-border asset recovery. At present, his primary practice focus is on complex parallel civil and criminal proceedings arising from the investigative and enforcement efforts of the SEC, DOJ, FTC, CFTC, FINRA, TSSB and other agencies. In most cases, his work has aligned with the government, as he has served as and represented court-appointed fiduciaries, victim groups, or civil plaintiffs. However, he has also handled whitecollar criminal defense matters, assisted with health care audits, responded to government investigations, and defended parties in civil proceedings having the potential for parallel criminal proceedings.



Energy Health Care

Achievements

Law Business Research Limited – International Who's Who of Asset Recovery Lawyers (2012, 2017)

 $\mathit{Martindale\text{-}Hubbell^{\mathbb{R}}}$ BV® Distinguished Peer Review Rated Peer Review

Thomson Reuters – Texas Rising Stars (2004-2005)

Woodward/White, Inc. – Best Lawyers in America, Commercial Litigation (2024)

Memberships

Dallas Bar Association National Association of Federal Equity Receivers State Bar of Texas

Experience

Securities Litigation

Represented a liquidating trustee pursing claims against broker-dealers following a securities fraud.

Securities Litigation

Represented investors holding millions of dollars in auction-rate securities in arbitration proceedings. Represented a liquidating trustee pursing claims against broker-dealers following a securities fraud.

Committee Representation

Represented the Official Unsecured Creditors' Committee for Life Partners Holdings, Inc., which filed for Chapter 11 after entry of a \$47 MM judgment in favor of the SEC. Life Partners managed a \$2.4 B insurance portfolio of "life settlements." The Joint Plan was confirmed after a five week contested confirmation hearing, making it the first "life settlement" company to successfully emerge from bankruptcy with a confirmed Chapter 11 Plan.



State Court Receiverships

Appointed as receiver in City of Dallas v. Kolobotos (Tex. Dist. Ct. – Dallas) (code enforcement); Texas State Securities Board v. RSM Forex Fund (Tex. Dist. Ct. – Collin) (\$4.5 MM forex fund); Frost Bank v. Evans (Tex. Dist. Ct. – Dallas) (turnover of \$6.7 MM in assets) and Vertex v. Earth Biofuels (Tex. Dist. Ct. – Harris) (turnover of various offerings), and represented the receiver in City of Dallas v. Rao (Tex. Dist. Ct. – Dallas) (code enforcement) and Wells Fargo v. Gould Ashley Creek (Tex. Dist. Ct. – Dallas) (apartment complex).

Federal Receiverships

Appointed as a federal equity receiver in SEC and FTC enforcement proceedings, including SEC v. IPIC (N.D.Tex.) (\$170 MM Ponzi scheme), SEC v. Provident Royalties (N.D.Tex.) (\$485 MM oil/gas investment fraud), SEC v. Striker Petroleum (N.D.Tex.) (\$150 MM oil/gas investment fraud), SEC v. Brown (E.D.Tex.) (\$6 MM real estate fraud); FTC v. Advanced Management Systems (W.D. Wa.) (fake credit restructuring scheme); SEC v. Roberts (E.D. Ark.) (\$44 MM forex fund) and FTC v. Shopper Systems (E.D. Fla.) (\$26 MM business opportunity fraud). Represented federal equity receivers and examiners in various enforcement proceedings involving real estate fraud, oil/gas schemes, prime bank schemes and life settlement and viatical frauds.

State Court Receiverships

City of Dallas v. Kolobotos (Tex. Dist. Ct. – Dallas). City Code enforcement receivership involving a multifamily property where the firm obtained court-approved construction and exit financing to remediate substandard conditions, and negotiated a long-term lease to a non-profit provider of affordable housing.

Newsroom

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Announces Senior Management Changes

Speech: Munsch Hardt Presents Is There A Whistleblower In Your Midst? Webinar

Press Release: 'Best Lawyers in America®' Names 54 Munsch Hardt Attorneys to its 2024 List and Two as 'Lawyers of the Year'

Speech: A Pocket Guide To Texas Receiverships

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Win 2017 Turnaround of the Year Award

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Honored at 2017 Turnaround Atlas Award

Article: Presenting a Receivership Distribution Plan

Speech: Locating and Seizing Assets in Foreign Jurisdictions

Press Release: International Who's Who of Asset Recovery Lawyers Adds Munsch Hardt Attorneys to Membership

Press Release: Four Munsch Hardt Attorneys Achieve Texas Rising Star Honors