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#### **Education**

J.D. from University of Oklahoma College of Law

- Graduated with Distinction
- American Indian Law Review

B.A. from Baylor University cum laude

#### **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 District Court for the District of New Mexico

#### **Related Practices**

Labor & Employment
Covenants Not to Compete
Employment Litigation
FLSA
OSHA
Trade Secrets
Litigation
Antitrust
Arbitration
TCPA + Consumer Litigation

# **Overview**

Michael currently serves as Munsch Hardt's General Counsel. An experienced commercial litigator and trial lawyer, he focuses his practice on defending clients in complex commercial disputes in federal and state courts and arbitration. He represents clients in contract disputes, consumer litigation, business torts, Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) Wage and Hour, Title VII, Chapter 21, family and medical leave, sexual harassment, pregnancy discrimination, non-competition and confidentiality agreements.

With respect to his consumer litigation practice, Michael has extensive experience representing retail companies, credit and mortgage lending institutions, as well as other related consumer finance entities. Specifically, he has represented clients in matters involving federal and state consumer protection statutes, including the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), Texas Debt Collections Act (TDCA) and Federal Fair Debt Collections Practices Act (FDCPA) in state court, federal court and arbitration. He also works with clients to develop TCPA-compliant processes and policies.

Michael also spends a considerable amount of time consulting with and advising clients on commercial and employment practices and policies. In this respect, Michael worked in a secondment position as in-house counsel for an international placement company.



#### **Related Industries**

Financial Services Construction Energy Retail Transportation

#### **Achievements**

*Thomson Reuters –* Texas Rising Stars (2015-2017)

### **Memberships**

**ACA** International

Down Syndrome Association of Houston (Board of Directors and Legal Counsel)

Honorable Garland R. Walker American Inn of Court (Barrister)

Houston Bar Association, Labor and Employment and Litigation Sections

State Bar of Texas, Labor and Employment Law Section

# **Experience**

### **Placement Agency Secondment**

Secondment in-house position for international professional placement company handling North American business counseling, labor and employment consultation and related commercial and employment litigation.

#### **FLSA**

Represented numerous oil and gas companies in class/collective action litigation related to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) wage and hour issues.

### **EEOC Charges Against a Hospital**

Represented local hospital with respect to all EEOC charges of discrimination.



### **NLRA Complaints**

Represented multiple companies with respect to NLRA complaints, including concerted activity issues.

### **Labor & Employment Counsel**

Represented national chain of electronics and appliances stores with respect to consumer litigation including Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), Texas Debt Collection Act, Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), and debt collection.

### **Labor & Employment Counsel**

Drafted, assisted in rolling out and litigated employment agreements and polices, including class waivers, arbitration provisions, non-compete agreement, confidentiality agreements, executive compensation agreements and employee handbooks.

#### Class + Collective Waivers

Litigated and upheld class/collective waivers in the Southern District of Texas subsequent to NLRB's DR Horton decision for national Corporation.

### **Labor & Employment Counsel**

Legal Counsel for the Down Syndrome Association of Houston.

## **Labor & Employment Counsel**

Labor and Employment Counsel for the Houston SPCA.

# **Newsroom**

In The News: Munsch Hardt Begins Transition to New CEO

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Announces Senior Management Changes

Speech: Legal Education: Getting the Most Bang for Your Buck in Litigation Strategy

In The News: Talking TCPA: What is the Best-Case Scenario for Mitigating Illegal Robocalls?

Article: Telemarketers, and Scammers and Robocallers, Oh My!





In The News: Former Conn's In-House Lawyer Booted From Case 'Substantially Related' to Her Old Job

In The News: Retailer Conn's Says Ex-Counsel's New TCPA Suit Improper

Article: Redefining Labor

Press Release: Five Munsch Hardt Attorneys Recognized as 2017 Rising Stars by Thomson Reuters

Speech: Guide to the Department of Labor's FLSA Update

Article: Ninth Circuit Invalidates Class Action Waivers Paired With Mandatory Arbitration Agreements

Speech: 2016 Employment Law and Construction Law Updates

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Wins Positive FLSA Verdict for J4 Oilfield Services

Speech: 5 Tips for Compliance with FLSA on Overtime

Speech: 2016 Employment Law Update

Press Release: Six Munsch Hardt Attorneys Recognized as 2016 Texas Super Lawyers Rising Stars

Speech: Social Media: Opportunity & Threats for NORA Members

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Recognized by Super Lawyers as 2015 Rising Stars

Speech: End-of-Year Labor & Employment Seminar

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Announces Three Promotions

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Grows Business Litigation Group in Houston