

Phil
C. Appenzeller, Jr.

Shareholder Dallas
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Education

J.D. from University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law

- *UMKC Law Review* (Administrative Editor)

B.S. from Evangel University with honors

Bar Admissions

Missouri

Texas

Related Practices

Litigation
- Arbitration
- Director & Officer Litigation
- Financial Institution Litigation
- Insolvency Litigation
- Warranty

Related Industries

Financial Services
Technology & Telecommunications

Achievements

Overview

Phil is the Chief Executive Officer of Munsch Hardt and serves as a member of the Firm's Board of Directors, as well as the Compensation, Operations and Diversity Committees. He previously served as the Firm's Chief Operating Officer and Section Head of the Litigation Practice group.

As a litigator, Phil's practice focuses on large, complex commercial litigation cases involving fiduciaries and creditors against former officers, directors and other professional advisors of failed companies. He also regularly represents clients on a variety of securities litigation matters.

Phil places a great deal of emphasis on client service by being highly responsive and remaining focused on his clients' business objectives. This approach, coupled with his strategic thinking, has made him an accomplished trial lawyer who has obtained numerous favorable verdicts in sophisticated, multi-million dollar disputes.

Phil and his wife, Rhonda, live in Dallas and have two sons, Brock and Zack.

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D CEO – Dallas 500 (2018-2021, 2024)

Martindale-Hubbell® AV Preeminent®, Peer Review Rated

Thomson Reuters – Texas Super Lawyers (2012-2015); Texas Rising Stars (2004-2005)

Woodward/White, Inc. – Best Lawyers in America, Litigation – Bankruptcy (2020-2024), Best Lawyers in America, Commercial Litigation (2020-2024)

Memberships

Evangel University (Board of Trustees Member)

Folds of Honor Foundation, DFW Chapter (Board Member)

Former United States Army Judge Advocate General Corp Officer (Rank of Captain)

Mesquite Independent School District (Former Board of Trustees – President)

Texas Bar Foundation (Fellow)

Experience

Breach of Contract

Obtained a $7.5 MM jury verdict for two student loan servicing companies for breach of a Master Services Agreement and Statements of Work.

Plan Administrator Counsel

Co-Lead Counsel for the Plan Administrator for the failed Texas Rangers Baseball franchise, pursuing claims against the Rangers former owner.

Audit Malpractice Litigation

Represented the liquidating trust of a bankrupt public telecommunications company in an suit against a public company's officers and directors and its former auditors. The claims were for negligent auditing and negligent advisory services in relation to the booking of revenue. The case was consolidated in a multidistrict litigation along with numerous securities class action lawsuits, and, after more than 160 depositions and successfully defeating numerous summary judgment motions, the case against the auditing firm settled prior to trial.

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Audit Malpractice Litigation

Represented the liquidating trustee of a failed public energy company. On behalf of the debtor, the firm brought claims against the officers and directors of the company as well as against its auditor for negligence and breach of contract. The case settled shortly after defeating the auditor's motion to dismiss.

Fiduciary Litigation

Completed a two week trial in the Southern District of New York regarding breach of fiduciary duty on behalf of a Chief Legal Officer against its former manager.

Real Estate Litigation

Represented a commercial real estate developer against a United Arab Emirates governmental entity.

Trustee Litigation

Served as lead Trial Counsel for the litigation trustee of ETS Payphones, Inc. in a $400 MM Ponzi scheme.

Insolvency Litigation

Represented an SEC appointed Receiver in an oil and gas Ponzi scheme in Texas.

Newsroom

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Announces Senior Management Changes

Press Release: Phil Appenzeller and Chris Speer Honored by D CEO in 2024 'Dallas 500' Directory

Speech: Smaller Footprint, Larger Headcount: Legal Profession Evolves

In The News: As Big Law Plunders Talent, Midsize Firms Embrace 'Lifestyle' Firm Status

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

In The News: Why Lawyers Are Leading The Return-To-Office Race

In The News: 'Getting Busier and Busier': 2022 Shaping Up Strong for Homegrown Texas Firms

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Honored as 2023 'Best Lawyers in America®,' 'Ones to Watch', and 'Lawyer of the Year'

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Press Release: Munsch Hardt Commits Long-Term to Dallas' Ross Tower for Corporate Headquarters

In The News: Three Middle-Market Law Firms, One Record-Setting Year in Texas Revenues

In The News: Munsch Hardt's New, Larger Houston Office Features Collaborative Space, Natural Light and a Putting Green

In The News: Dallas-based Law Firm to Nearly Double Footprint in Pennzoil Place Downtown

In The News: Munsch Hardt Law Expands to 2 Floors in Pennzoil Place

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Maintains Rapid Growth in Houston and Doubles Down on Pennzoil Place

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Honored as 2022 'Best Lawyers in America', 'Ones to Watch' and 'Lawyer of the Year'

In The News: How I Made Law Firm Leader

Speech: The Future of the Law Firm Office

In The News: Add Munsch Hardt to List of Texas Firms With Fully Open Offices

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Honored as '2021 Best Lawyers in America' and 'Ones to Watch'

In The News: The Texas Middle Market – Flat or Firm, Stable or Stale?

Speech: COVID Conversations Video Series

In The News: Texas Firms Sell Recruits On Opportunity As BigLaw Invades

In The News: Phil Appenzeller and Kitty Henry Named to the 2020 Edition of Dallas 500

In The News: My Office: Phil Appenzeller

Press Release: Twenty-Five Munsch Hardt Attorneys Honored as '2020 Best Lawyers in America'

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Named Among Top 100 Places to Work by The Dallas Morning News

Speech: Appenzeller Sits on TAGLaw International Conference Panel Focused on Diversity

Speech: Appenzeller Sits On Fairfax Associates Panel Discussing Collaboration Within the Law Firm

In The News: Dallas Trial Boutique to Close as Munsch Hardt Hires Its Lawyers

In The News: Fueled by energy litigation practice, law firm to double Houston headcount

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Expands Houston Office Due to Continued Growth

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Ranked Among the "Top 100 Places to Work" by The Dallas Morning News

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Launches New Website

Press Release: Travis County Women Lawyers Association Names Munsch Hardt an Outstanding Firm for Women

Speech: Settling Complex Cases

Speech: Perspectives & Implications: Confidently Taking Extended Self Care Leave & Returning to the Practice of Law

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Ranked Among the Top 100 Places to Work by The Dallas Morning News

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Press Release: Munsch Hardt Recognized as Champion of Justice

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Obtains $10 MM Jury Verdict for Two Student Loan Servicing Companies

In The News: Lawyers Duct Tape Managing Partners to the Wall-for Charity

In The News: Net, Gross Income Up in 2015 at Munsch Hardt

In The News: Winston & Strawn, Munsch Hardt See Revenue Rise in 2015

In The News: Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr Elects New CEO, COO

Press Release: Thirteen Munsch Hardt Attorneys Recognized as 2015 Texas Super Lawyers

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr Prepares for Austin Growth with Move to Colorado Tower

In The News: Munsch Hardt Turns 30 and has a Story to Tell

In The News: At 30, Munsch Hardt law firm looks to middle market to grow

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Expects Aggressive Austin Growth in 2015

In The News: Dallas' Munsch Law Firm Playing Hardt To Get

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Receives Back-to-Back Recognition in The Dallas Morning News' Top 100 Places to Work

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Recognized as 2014 Super Lawyers

In The News: Meet the Houston Law Firm that Hopes to Hire Away Your Best Lawyers

In The News: Munsch Hardt Looks for 10 Percent Growth Under New Leadership

In The News: New CEO of Munsch Hardt Gives Reasons 2014 Will Be A Great Year

In The News: Appenzeller Elected CEO of Munsch Hardt Law Firm

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Continues Aggressive Growth and Recruitment with Key Management Appointments

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Selected As 2013 Super Lawyers

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Names 2013 Management Committee

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Recognized by Thomson Reuters Super Lawyers 2012

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Reelects Callison as CEO, Elects New Vice Chairman and Management Committee Members

Speech: Munsch Hardt Attorney Phil C. Appenzeller, Jr. Speaks at Webinar on In Pari Delicto Doctrine

Press Release: Four Munsch Hardt Attorneys Honored by DAYL Foundation

Press Release: Phil Appenzeller Named Section Head of Firm's Litigation Practice

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

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