

N. Thomas Connally, III

Partner

Northern Virginia

Biography

Tom Connally, Practice Leader for Americas Litigation, is a leading trial lawyer representing businesses and individuals in complex commercial litigation, with extensive experience in handling cases in regulated industries.

Tom has tried and won all manner of substantial cases involving breach of contract, fraud, and other business torts. He handles disputes for companies in the technology, government contracts, satellite, aerospace, communications, media, energy, automotive, aviation, pharmaceutical, health care, and real estate industries, as well as important matters for associations, colleges, and universities.

Clients have commented to *Chambers USA* that Tom is "extremely smart," "superb at litigation strategy," and "excellent at oral argument," and praised Tom's "creativity and ability to think outside the box."

His work includes high-profile disputes for technology companies and cases for government contractors involving subcontracts, joint ventures, and teaming agreements. Tom has handled disputes in the satellite industry involving international joint ventures, launch contracts, and capacity and equipment agreements. His media cases have involved network affiliation agreements, station purchase contracts, and



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Practices

Securities, Shareholder, and M&A
Litigation

Litigation Services

Space and Satellite

Technology Litigation

Industries

Aerospace and Defense

Real Estate

Education

Technology & Telecoms

Areas of focus

programming rights agreements. In real estate litigation, Tom has represented real estate investment trusts, limited partnerships, and developers in contract and partnership disputes.

Tom also defends public companies and their officers and directors in shareholder, antitrust, and securities litigation, and represents public and private entities and individuals in corporate, LLC, and partnership control disputes.

Tom is the firm's Practice Area Leader for Americas Litigation, with responsibility for the firm's Commercial Litigation practice across the United States, Mexico, and Brazil. At the firm, he has also served as the Managing Partner of the Northern Virginia office, and as a member and past co-chair of the firm's Legal Ethics Committee. Outside the firm, Tom has served as President of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and on the Board of Governors of the Virginia Bar Association.

Representative experience

Won three-week Eastern District of Virginia patent jury trial for major international chemistry conglomerate in dispute over technology to obtain health-critical omega-3 fatty acids from crop plants.

Won a US\$385m jury trial for Orbital ATK over a joint venture to market Orbital ATK's mission extension vehicle, a spacecraft meant to extend the lives of geostationary satellites.

Obtained emergency injunction extending Virginia voter registration by two days after Department of Elections website failed on the final day to register for the 2020 general election.

Winning jury verdict for the defense in LLC control dispute, defeating derivative claims for breach of fiduciary duty, loyalty, and LLC operating agreement.

Class Actions and Group Litigation
Real Estate Litigation and Disputes
Media and Entertainment Litigation

Education and admissions

Education

J.D., University of Virginia School of Law, 1993

B.A., University of Virginia, with distinction, 1990

Memberships

Past president, Federal Bar Association, Northern Virginia Chapter

Past member, Board of Governors, Virginia Bar Association

Member, Arlington County Bar Association

Member, Fairfax County Bar Association

Bar admissions and qualifications

District of Columbia

Virginia

Court admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit

Successful representation of agencies of the Commonwealth of Virginia in litigation over a US\$2.6bn contract outsourcing the information technology services of the state government.

Successful defense of REITs accused of breaching right of first offer for office complex in US\$1.4bn real estate portfolio transaction.

Obtaining dismissal of a high-profile wrongful death claim asserted against the third-party administrator of a state employee health plan.

Winning substantial verdict, including US\$3.3m in punitive damages, for pro bono client against perpetrators of a "pre-foreclosure" scam.

Winning trial of online news feed royalty dispute in the Eastern District of Virginia.

Winning appeal to the 4th Circuit sustaining the dismissal of a False Claims Act case against a state student loan authority.

Winning an appeal in the Virginia Supreme Court on statute of limitations issues for the American Physical Therapy Association.

Successful handling of claims involving subcontracts, teaming agreements and joint ventures for government contractors in state and federal courts.

Successful representation of the Holy See in licensing dispute regarding the reproduction rights for Vatican treasures and works of art.

Awards and rankings

- Litigation: General Commercial (Virginia), *Chambers USA*, 2008-2020
- Business Litigation, *Washington, D.C. Super Lawyers*, 2010-2019
- Business Litigation, *Virginia Super Lawyers*, 2010-2019

U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit

U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia

U.S. District Court, Western District of Virginia

U.S. Supreme Court

Accolades

"He has a rare combination of a strategic mind and practicality."

Chambers USA

"He's an excellent attorney who is very well respected. He's ... sought after to handle the kind of matters that are really significant."

Chambers USA 2016

"He's highly intelligent, analytical and a great communicator"

Chambers USA, 2019

"Outstanding litigator and corporate counsel."

Chambers USA, 2019

- Top Attorneys in Business Litigation, *Super Lawyers Business Edition*, 2014-2018
- Legal Elite, Civil Litigation, *Virginia Business magazine*, 2014-2016

Latest thinking and events

- Press Releases
 - Carine Stoick named Hogan Lovells Office Managing Partner in Northern Virginia
- Press Releases
 - Hogan Lovells advises voting rights organizations in successful lawsuit to extend Virginia voter registration date
- Published Works
 - A road map for drafting persuasive discovery motions *Law360*
- Webinar
 - Ethics CLE: Ethical implications of remote working
- Press Releases
 - Former Virginia Commissioner of Elections files brief in support of absentee ballot accommodations made by Commonwealth in wake of COVID-19
- Press Releases
 - Hogan Lovells secures major win in one of the largest patent disputes in the U.S.