



About Gibbs & Bruns LLP

As top-flight as it gets. A boutique staffed with outstanding lawyers.

Chambers USA 2016

2018 is a hallmark year for Gibbs & Bruns LLP. In October, we will celebrate 35 years of service to our highly-sophisticated and diverse client base. Since its founding, not much has changed about the boutique litigation firm established in 1983 by Robin Gibbs in the energy hub of Houston, Texas. Robin's vision was to champion a different way of practicing law. This alternative relationship with clients—sharing risk, alternative fee arrangements, lean trial teams—has kept the firm's practice at the forefront of many industry leading disputes.

The firm saw significant verdicts and successes early in its tenure:

- \$84 Million - *Apex Municipal Fund, Inc., et al. v. N-Group Securities, Inc., et al.* (1994)
- \$309 Million - *Avia Development Group, Inc., et al. v. American General Realty Investment Corporation, et al.* (1997)
- \$11.5 Million - *Quantum Chemical Corp. v. The M.W. Kellogg Company* (1995)

Those successes continue today.

With 30 top-flight lawyers, the firm has garnered national notoriety for its energy, technology, and financial sector experience, in particular. Exceedingly rare for a litigation firm, we routinely practice on both sides of the docket. With both plaintiff and defense experience, we bring a higher level of insight and strategy to complex disputes. Our lawyers excel in creative approaches to disputes in the context of dynamic and ever-changing industry landscapes.

Our results demonstrate the significance of our firm's impact on the nationwide litigation scene:

- \$8.5 Billion Countrywide RMBS Precedent-Setting Settlement Obtained for 22 Institutional Investor Clients (2015)
- \$2.4 Billion Settlement with Lehman Brothers on Behalf of 14 Institutional Investors (2017)
- \$7 Billion Allowed Claim - ResCap Bankruptcy Settlement with 17 Institutional Investors (2013)
- \$4.5 Billion Settlement with JPMorgan on Behalf of 21 Institutional Investors (2013)
- \$1.13 Billion Settlement with Citigroup on Behalf of 18 Institutional Investors (2014)
- \$1 Billion in Total Recoveries for Clients, Including \$400 Million Settlement with Credit Suisse - National Century Enterprises (NCFE) Securities Litigation (2013)
- \$196 Million Judgment Win for Plaintiff Client D. Bobbitt Noel Jr. against Devon Energy (2011)
- \$100 Million Value Arbitration Award for Venoco against Denbury Onshore (2014)
- \$37.2 Million Recovery for Client Against the Port of Houston (Verdict 2010, Finalized 2017)
- \$4.58 Million Jury Verdict for Plaintiff Client SourceGas in Dispute against Noble Energy (2011)
- Major Defense Win in Multi-Billion Dollar Environmental Trial for Waste Management; settlement was less than one percent of the government's demand (2014)



- \$1.7 Billion Net Settlement Package for Huntsman; including \$1.1 billion in financing and \$632 million in cash, the largest cash settlement payment ever recovered with respect to a busted LBO (2009)

Critical to the success of our clients are our focused and personal client service, responsiveness, superior preparation, and our knack for getting along with the other side. Perhaps much can be gleaned from the fact that Gibbs & Bruns is often the choice of professional service firms, including AmLaw 100 firms, seeking representation for their professional disputes.

When the stakes are high, the firm's litigation is excellent and its preparation in cases is unmatched.

Chambers USA 2018

Pending matters which illustrate the sophistication of our clients and their disputes include:

- \$800 million Libor suit for Fannie Mae against nine banks.
- Plaintiffs' securities fraud action against Petrobras – Lava Jato Scandal – representing WGI Emerging Markets Fund LLC and several other institutional investors.
- Plaintiffs' trade secrets case for Sanchez Oil.
- Defense of Reynolds & Reynolds, major automotive retailer, in federal antitrust multidistrict litigation.
- Representing Occidental as the largest private creditor in the bankruptcy of Maxus Energy.
- Significant appellate win on major issues in the First Court of Appeals for Chevron/Unocal in a complex, multi-party dispute involving its 2012 contractually-permitted withdrawal from ownership of the 800-mile Trans-Alaska Pipeline System.
- Plaintiffs' securities suit against US Bank as trustee of 10 Ginnie Mae securitizations.
- Defense of Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company LLC involving \$100+ million in damage claims.
- Defense of Waste Management in environmental mass tort matter involving over 600 plaintiffs and allegations of over \$700 million in personal injury and property damages.
- Representing Trustmark Bank in two lawsuits related to the collapse of the Stanford Financial Group (headed by R. Allen Stanford).

Measured by our clients' successes, Gibbs & Bruns is a proven cadre of lawyers who excel in trial law. We are purposefully small because, for us, this business is personal. Our clients can attest to that.

Culture

Founded by Robin Gibbs, named "Father of the Litigation Boutique in Texas" by *The Texas Lawbook*, Gibbs & Bruns' culture is a special synergy of camaraderie, ethics, and dedication to our clients' success. We have been described as "brilliant trial attorneys who love trial work and business litigation" (*Chambers USA*). Ours is a firm intently focused on winning for our clients. We work closely with one another, and our collegial environment is evident to all who interact with our lawyers and staff.



Working side by side with our partners, associates learn to become trial lawyers by actively participating in trials, arbitrations, and mediations. Gibbs & Bruns has never hired a lateral partner. Our law firm model is focused on developing top-flight associates into first-rate trial lawyers. The firm has grown slowly and with much attention to the future. We have added the appropriate talent to sustain a boutique that provides the absolute best value to our clients, while developing trial lawyers skilled in the core elements of litigation including trial advocacy, theory, briefing, and the art of negotiation.

Behind-the-Scenes and Front-Line Experience

Gibbs & Bruns' associates represent one of the finest groups of talent in U.S. firms. They are self-starters and keen to embrace the early responsibilities that come with practicing at a boutique firm.

Associates are integral members of the team – working on some of the most challenging and sophisticated commercial litigation cases in the nation. From early in their careers, Gibbs & Bruns' associates learn to be masters of the facts and are encouraged to share theories and ideas. Some of our work is not glamorous – think: boxes and boxes of documents (or more often these days, gigabytes of data) boiled down to the essential exhibits – but appreciation for this part of the job is essential. It is from the facts that we build our case strategies.

More importantly, our associates also work right away on the front lines alongside our partners, participating fully in client meetings, depositions, hearings, trials, arbitrations, and mediations. We believe this is the best way for our associates to learn the art of preparedness and how Gibbs & Bruns lawyers advocate on behalf of clients.

First-Rate Ethics

Gibbs & Bruns has an outstanding reputation for the professionalism of all of our lawyers. There is no rule bending or bridge burning with courts or our peers in the legal community. Our lawyers have an unassuming confidence that comes with being thorough and meticulously prepared. We are assertive and aggressive when appropriate. But, above all, we are dedicated to upholding the integrity of the legal profession, and this quality is instilled in every Gibbs & Bruns associate.

Pro Bono and Community Outreach

Gibbs & Bruns is a very special firm – a blend of extraordinarily talented people, a familial culture, and legacy of generosity that extends well beyond the walls of our beloved firm. The ability and, more importantly, the desire to give back is one of the most powerful attributes of our firm's culture. Gibbs & Bruns lawyers are encouraged to support charitable, civic, and pro bono causes that are of personal interest and significance to our community and beyond.

For decades, the firm has participated in the Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program where our lawyers handle a variety of matters for clients who might not otherwise have the means to afford legal assistance or representation. Over the years, our lawyers have also handled several prisoner cases under Section 1983. For such pro bono efforts, Gibbs & Bruns was twice-recognized as the recipient of the Harris County Bench Bar Pro Bono Award in the mid-size firm category, in 2009 and 2015.

Commitment to pro bono service is demonstrated at the most senior levels at the firm. For instance, firm partners currently serve as: pro bono general counsel to the Lutheran Bishop in this region (Kathy Patrick);



chair of the Houston Bar Foundation (Barrett Reasoner); and volunteer pilot for Angel Flight, an organization that assists medical patients in getting to specialized medical treatment facilities via privately-owned planes that they otherwise would not be able to get due to financial hardships (Scott Humphries).

Additional recent and long-time pro bono efforts by our firm lawyers include: Veteran's support clinics; Houston Bar Association (HBA) sponsored Will-a-Thons; immigration information sessions and preparation of guardianship papers for undocumented persons; HBA Legal Line support; and participation in the HBA's Communities in Schools internship program where the firm hires and mentors a high school student from a disadvantaged community for a summer experience (the firm has supported this effort for over 20 years).

Last year, in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, the partnership made it a priority to provide a special gesture of financial assistance in the wake of the largest disaster our City has ever experienced. Even today, months after the disaster, many people continue to struggle in the aftermath trying to make ends meet. And so many people remain in need of quality legal support as they work to return their lives to some sense of normal. As such, the partners extended two gifts on behalf of the firm: \$150,000 to Lone Star Legal Aid and \$100,000 to the Houston Bar Foundation's Hurricane Relief Fund. These donations were provided specifically so that the staff and volunteers of both organizations can continue the critical legal support and services they are providing to the thousands in our City still in need of legal assistance.

Gibbs & Bruns views its ability to give back to the City which sustained this firm's prosperity and success for over 35 years as a dynamic gift. Pro bono service is a natural extension of our firm's commitment to excellence in service to our clients; our dedication to ethics and professionalism; and fostering of our unique familial and collegial culture.