

Hugh M. Robert Bio

Hugh M. Robert is a partner in the firm of Sherwood & Robert. He graduated from the University of Tulsa College of Law. His undergraduate degree is also from the University of Tulsa. He practices in the areas of complex litigation including business transactions, business torts, business dissolution, real estate transactions, health care law, and real estate condemnation. Hugh serves as outside general counsel to non-profits, for-profit businesses of varying sizes handling contracts, business acquisitions, real estate transactions, human resources matters, and risk assessments. He also practices in the area of complex estate planning and probate. He represents and works with non-profit foundations and organizations advising them on state and federal compliance issues, policy and procedure best practices, intellectual property and licensing, and board governance issues. Hugh works with and represents non-profit organizations and foundations of varying sizes serving as outside general counsel to a number of them including the SEAL Legacy Foundation, Polynesian Football Hall of Fame, the Black College Football Hall of Fame, 15 and the Mahomies Foundation, and the JuJu Foundation. Hugh regularly attends the Georgetown Law's annual Representing and Managing Tax Exempt Organizations Continuing Education where the IRS Tax Exempt Organizations Chairperson and other Exempt Organizational leaders teach and speak.

Hugh currently serves as an Adjunct Settlement Judge for the United States Northern District Court. He has performed hundreds of mediations through Accord Mediation and Arbitration in the areas of complex business litigation and dissolution, insurance disputes, trust/probate disputes, tribal and general premises liability, non-profit/HOA disputes, nursing home negligence and personal injury cases. He has also served as an arbiter for contract disputes, collective bargaining actions, employee discrimination, consumer contracts, and nursing home negligence/personal injury cases.

While at the University of Tulsa College of Law, he served as Articles Editor for the peer-reviewed Energy Law Journal. He was a member of the Phi Delta Phi honors fraternity. He was on the Dean's honor roll and held several offices in the Law & Medicine Society. He received a number of awards including the Outstanding Service Award from the Law & Medicine Society, Phi Delta Phi Professional Responsibility Award, and Cali Awards (highest grade) in Mental Health Disability Law, Civil Procedure, Pre-Trial Practice, and Professional Responsibility. He also received the Martin H. Belsky Award in Public Interest Law for his demonstrated commitment in the areas of public service, diversity, religious respect and promotion of constitutional values in 2008.

He has published "Pitfalls of Prosecuting Premises Liability Claims Against Tribal Casinos" in The Oklahoma Bar Journal, Vol. 92, No. 6, August 2021, pgs 16-19; "Unrelated Business Income Tax (UBIT): What Is It and Why Should My Exempt Organizational Clients Care?" in The Oklahoma Bar Journal, Vol. 83, No. 14, May 19, 2012, pgs 1237-1240, Lessons of Prudhoe Bay: An Examination of Low-Stress Pipelines Regulations in the American Bar Association Energy Committee Newsletter (Vol. 5, No. 3, p. 10-13, June 2008). He has taught Elder Law as an adjunct professor at the University of Tulsa College of Law (2012, 2015, 2017, and 2019.) Hugh has presented CLEs on topics including "Non-profits, what is your exposure," "Non-profit Basics and the Law", and "Crisis Management for Non-profits."

He founded and served as Executive Director of the non-profit organization Oklahoma Center for Consumer & Patient Safety, which later became OKWatchdog, a 501(c)(3) organization. He was responsible for the identification of policies and practices that impact consumer and patient safety and bring about change in those areas. He was awarded the Consumer Advocate of the Year by the Oklahoma Association for Justice in 2007 for his work with the organization.

He currently serves as the Secretary and Trustee to the Kappa Sigma Endowment Fund, is the Audit Committee Chair and on the board of directors for the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits, on the board of directors of Parkside Psychiatric Hospital & Clinic and American Bank and Trust. Hugh is the co-founder of Lawyers Fighting Hunger, Inc. a 501 (c)(3) foundation that raises money to help feed the hungry and partners with other non-profits across the state of Oklahoma. He has served as the President on the International Board of Directors of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity, President of the Alumni Board for the University of Tulsa College of Law, CLE Chair for the Hudson Hall Wheaton Inns of Court, Membership Committee Chair of the Tulsa County Bar Association, and Iron Gate Board of Directors.

He was awarded The University of Tulsa College of Law Distinguished Young Alumni in 2010. He received Iron Gate's Volunteer of the Year award, volunteer under 40 award in 2011, and honored in 2019 at Iron Gate's Founder's Dinner for his work with Lawyers Fighting Hunger. He was recognized by the Tulsa County Bar Association with the

Roger Scott Community Service Award for 2014-15, and the Oklahoma Bar Association Outstanding Service Award to the Public Award in 2015. He was named as a "Power Attorney" in 2013 by the Tulsa Business & Legal News and recognized by the Tulsa World as "One of Tulsa's 10 people to watch in 2015." He was recognized by the Tulsa County Bar with the "Golden Rule" award in June 2022. He was also recognized in 2024 with the Tulsa County Bar Foundation Brunton-Will Continuing Legal Educational Award. Hugh has been recognized as a Super Lawyer from 2017-2024 and top 50 in Oklahoma for 2023 and 2024.

Hugh is a member of the Tulsa County Bar Association, Oklahoma Bar Association. He is admitted in Oklahoma, all Federal Courts in Oklahoma, Cherokee Tribal Court, Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court, Choctaw Tribal Court, Chickasaw Tribal Court, Muscogee (Creek) Tribal Court, Osage Tribal Court, and Quapaw Tribal Court.

Hugh is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell, the highest rating from this national attorney rating service.