



F. Thomas Cordell

Tom Cordell has over 40 years of legal experience, during which time he has taken in excess of 50 cases to jury trial. He has participated as counsel in over 600 mediations during his litigation career. Tom retired from the active practice of law in 2021, focusing his skills in the arenas of mediation and arbitration. Tom obtained formal mediation training at the Pepperdine School of Law Straus Institute on Dispute Resolution. He has mediated cases as a panel mediator with Dispute Resolution Consultants since 2019.

Tom obtained his undergraduate degree in English Literature from Oklahoma State University in 1976, and his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Idaho in 1979. He was admitted to practice law in Oklahoma in 1979. From 1979 to 1981, he served as an Assistant District Attorney in McClain County. In 1981, he joined the law firm of Huckaby, Fleming & Frailey. He became a partner in 1985. He practiced as a senior partner in the Chickasha, Oklahoma law firm of Frailey, Chaffin, Cordell, Perryman & Sterkel until September 2020, when he joined Wilson Cain and Aquaviva as *Of Counsel*.

During his years of active practice, Tom was engaged in all facets of tort litigation, focusing on complex tort and commercial litigation, construction defect, oil and gas litigation, bad faith, insurance defense and coverage litigation, personal injury, premises liability, products liability, auto liability. He is a member of the Order of the Barristers. He is a recipient of the Maurice Merrill Golden Quill Award, given by the OBA annually for the outstanding published article in the

Oklahoma Bar Journal. Tom has served and been actively involved with various legal organizations including the Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (Secretary-Treasurer, President-Elect, President, Chair of Board, Chair of the Projects and Objectives Committee, program chair of the Trial Masters' Program, General Convention Chair, Convention Program Chair, Chair of the Premises Liability Section, Chair of the Ethics Section, and Director on the Board of Directors); the Oklahoma Association of Defense Counsel (President, Vice President, and member of the Board of Directors); the Oklahoma Bar Association (Chair of the Insurance Section); the Defense Research Institute (Board of Directors; recipient of the DRI's Exceptional Performance Award); served as President of Lawyers for Civil Justice (a partnership of defense bar practitioners and corporate counsel from some of the most highly recognized names in the corporate world, representing a wide range of industries including pharmaceuticals, insurance, manufacturing, oil and gas LCJ focuses on maintaining balance and relevance in the civil justice system).

Education

- Oklahoma State University – B.A. English Literature 1976.
- University of Idaho – Juris Doctorate 1979.

Bar Admissions

- Oklahoma Bar Association - 1979
- Admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court
- Admitted to practice before the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals
- Admitted to practice before the Eastern, Northern & Western Federal District Courts of Oklahoma

Dispute Resolution - Training

- Straus Dispute Resolution Institute, Pepperdine University School of Law - 2019

Professional Affiliations and Honors

- Martindale-Hubbel "AV" Preeminent Rating
- *SuperLawyers*
- Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel – President, 2010-11
- American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) – past member
- Defense Research Institute - Exceptional Performance Citation, 1995
- Oklahoma Association of Defense Counsel - President, 1988-9
- Lawyers for Civil Justice – President, 2016
- Oklahoma Bar Association - Chair of Insurance Section, 1990
- Oklahoma Bar Foundation – Fellow

Community Involvement

- University of Arts & Sciences of Oklahoma – past member of the Board of Regents
- USAO Foundation – Board of Trustees – 2012-17
- First Christian Church Disciples of Christ – Elder