

Ryan A. Cunningham

Associate

Houston

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OVERVIEW

Ryan has extensive jury trial experience in construction and commercial litigation matters, including direct and cross-examination of fact and expert witnesses, as well as arguing motions in limine, directed verdicts, exhibits, and jury charges. He has additional experience drafting and negotiating contracts related to construction and development projects, as well as in commercial real estate transactions, and corporate formation and organization.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Obtained a unanimous jury verdict and an award for a publicly traded industrial and infrastructure company over competing claims of breach of contract, as well as fraud and negligence.
- Secured a jury verdict and award of specific performance for the U.S.'s largest privately held annuity company on its common-law and statutory fraud claims, as well as directed verdicts on its breach of contract claim and against defendant/counter plaintiff's counterclaim.
- Defended a publicly traded global steel pipe manufacturer and supplier in a jury trial over competing claims of breach of contract and fraud; obtained settlement during case-in-chief.
- Represented a major league sports franchise through prosecution of breach of contract and breach of warranty claims in an international construction arbitration case and obtained a multimillion-dollar settlement.
- Counseled a real estate developer against a contractor for breach of contract and fraud and obtained an arbitration award.
- Defended an international architecture firm against an unmeritorious nine-figure breach of contract, fraud, negligence, and fiduciary duty claims made by a real estate developer.
- Secured a multimillion-dollar settlement on behalf of a publicly traded global steel pipe manufacturer and supplier in a commercial contract case involving breach of contract and security interests.
- Represented a publicly traded pipeline owner in an eight-figure litigation in Texas and Oklahoma and obtained settlements.
- Has represented publicly traded and privately held companies in drafting and negotiating more than nine-figure contracts in construction and development projects.

AWARDS

- *Super Lawyers®* Texas Rising Star, Construction Litigation (2022-2025)
- *Best Lawyers in America®* Ones to Watch, Construction Law & Construction Litigation (2021-2026), Commercial Litigation (2024-2026)
- *Houstonia Magazine*, Top Lawyer, Construction Law (2020-2022)

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Business Litigation
- Construction
- Construction Litigation
- Energy Construction

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Treasurer, Texas Business Law Foundation (June 2024-Present)
- Treasurer and secretary, State Bar of Texas Business Law Section (June 2023-June 2024)
- Co-chair, Houston Bar Association Historical Committee (May 2024-Present)
- Member, Houston Bar Association Judicial Polls Committee (May 2023 – May 2024)
- Adjunct professor, Appellate Advocacy, South Texas College of Law Houston (August 2020–Present)
- Moot court coach, South Texas College of Law Houston (October 2017–Present)

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- South Texas College of Law Houston, J.D., *Order of the Barristers*
- The University of Texas at Austin, B.S.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Texas

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas