



Partner

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Services

Appellate > Class Actions > Complex Commercial Litigation >
Corporate Governance > Strategic eDiscovery and Data Management >
Intellectual Property > IP Litigation > International and Insolvency Litigation >
Litigation > Mergers and Acquisitions > Patent Litigation >
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William W. Oxley, the Managing Partner of Dechert's Los Angeles office, is a trial lawyer whose clients trust him with their most important disputes. According to his clients, Mr. Oxley is "a shrewd litigator" with "amazing jury appeal" "who always finds a way to win." Mr. Oxley is a Fellow in The American College of Trial Lawyers, which is composed of the best of the trial bar and is widely considered to be the premier professional trial organization in the United States. Fellowship is extended only by invitation, after careful investigation, to experienced trial lawyers who have mastered the art of advocacy and whose professional careers have been marked by the highest standards of ethical conduct, professionalism, civility and collegiality.

Mr. Oxley has tried many cases to verdict, including products liability cases for Union Carbide Corporation and contract and business tort cases for DHL Express (USA). He has also represented Fox Entertainment Group in patent infringement actions, The Dow Chemical Company in environmental litigation, Dow AgroSciences in products liability litigation and Sony Pictures

Entertainment, The Walt Disney Company, and ESPN in copyright and trademark litigation. Mr. Oxley has extensive experience litigating class actions and breach of contract, false advertising and real estate disputes, as well as defending nutritional and health product manufacturers and distributors against Proposition 65 claims. He has won appeals in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the First District Court of Appeals in Texas.

Since 2012, Mr. Oxley has been ranked as a leading litigator by *Chambers USA*, a referral guide to leading lawyers in the United States. Sources praise Mr. Oxley for the quality of his trial advocacy and strategic foresight. In the words of one of his clients, "He is brilliant, he has worked for me on numerous trials and quite frankly was and is the best trial lawyer I've ever seen." Clients also describe him as "a very skilled trial lawyer," and "gifted cross-examiner" who is "very good at communicating and simplifying complex topics."

Mr. Oxley has also been recognized since 2013 for his product liability and mass tort defense work in the toxic torts field by *The Legal 500 US*, which describes him as a "top notch" lawyer who is "excellent in front of the jury" and "adapts quickly to the changes that often occur during a trial." Since 2014, *Benchmark Litigation* has recognized Mr. Oxley as a "Litigation Star" for his general commercial and intellectual property practices.

Mr. Oxley is also a Fellow in the Litigation Counsel of America (LCA), which is a trial lawyer honorary society composed of less than one-half of one percent of American Lawyers. Fellowship in the LCA is highly selective and by invitation only. Fellows are selected based upon effectiveness and accomplishment in litigation, both at the trial and appellate levels, and superior ethical reputation.

Mr. Oxley maintains an active pro bono practice and was a member of the Public Counsel Board of Directors. He has also provided pro bono services through the California Lawyers for the Arts, the Bilingual Foundation for the Arts and the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, where he previously served on the Board of Directors.

Mr. Oxley is the head of Dechert's acclaimed trial advocacy program. He has also served as a guest lecturer on trial advocacy at Southwestern School of Law and on pre-trial practice at the University of California, Irvine School of Law.

Mr. Oxley has provided expert legal analysis for *Law360* and on MSNBC and Court TV, and he lectures and writes on various legal and business issues.

Before joining Dechert, Mr. Oxley was a litigation partner at a large international law firm.

EXPERIENCE

- *Billok v. Georgia Pacific*: Lead trial counsel for **Union Carbide** in a one month trial in Saratoga Springs, New York. Kimberlee Billok, a 42-year-old preschool teacher and mother of three young children, passed away from mesothelioma. Plaintiffs claimed that Mrs. Billok's mesothelioma was caused by exposure to a Georgia Pacific joint compound that allegedly contained Union Carbide's asbestos. The jury returned a complete defense verdict.

- *Bartolone v. Union Carbide Corporation*: Served as lead counsel for **Union Carbide** in a six-week products liability jury trial in New York City. The jury returned a full defense verdict.
- *Nelson v. Union Carbide Corporation*: Served as lead trial counsel for **Union Carbide** in a two month jury trial in Oakland, California. The plaintiffs sought in excess of US\$100 million, claiming that the alleged exposure to Union Carbide's asbestos caused Mr. Nelson's pericardial mesothelioma. The jury returned a full defense verdict.
- Lead trial counsel for **DHL Express** (USA) against breach of contract, fraud, and other business tort claims in jury trials in San Antonio, Dallas, and Houston, Texas and in Salt Lake City, Utah.
- *DHL Express (USA), Inc. v. Falcon Express Int'l, Inc.*, 408 S.W.3d 406 (Tex. App. – Houston [1st Dist.] 2013): Lead appellate counsel for **DHL** in a case where the Court of Appeals held that federal law preempted the claims that were asserted against DHL at trial.
- *Torres v. Union Carbide Corporation*: Served as lead trial counsel for **Union Carbide** in a wrongful death action in Miami, Florida brought by the family of a man who had passed away from mesothelioma. The plaintiffs sought in excess of US\$13 million in damages but the jury returned a full defense verdict, exonerating Union Carbide of any liability.

EDUCATION

- California State University, Chico, B.A., 1985
- University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law, J.D., 1988, with Distinction, Order of the Coif

ADMISSIONS

- California
- New York
- Texas

LANGUAGES

- Spanish

MEMBERSHIPS

- Fellow, **American College of Trial Lawyers**
- Fellow, **Litigation Counsel of America**
- Member, **American Board of Trial Advocates**
- Member, **The Trial Law Institute**
- Member, **Diversity Law Institute**
- Member, **Los Angeles County Bar Association**
- Member, **Law360's 2019 Trials Editorial Advisory Board**
- Former member, **Public Counsel** Board of Directors
- Former member, Board of the **Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles**