

# UNDERWOOD



## W. Heath Hendricks

Shareholder

### Profile



Heath was born and raised in Amarillo, Texas. He has practiced law in Amarillo since 2006. His practice includes general civil litigation, commercial litigation, professional liability, products liability, premises liability and transportation litigation. He has represented clients in arbitration proceedings and at trial.

He has a background in business, having received an M.B.A. with concentrations in Finance and Financial Consulting from Southern Methodist University, managed two retail stores while attending college, and represented business owners in a variety of matters related to the creation, operation, and management of different business entities.

While in law school, Heath interned for Chief Justice Phil Johnson of the Seventh Court of Appeals, Texas, and for Magistrate Judge Clinton A. Averitte of the Northern District of Texas, Amarillo Division.

Heath and his wife are the proud parents of five children.

### Practice Areas

- Commercial Litigation
- Transportation Litigation

### Bar/Court Admissions

- 2006, Texas
- Supreme Court of Texas
- United States District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Texas

### Education

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- Southern Methodist University, J.D., 2006
- Southern Methodist University, M.B.A., 2006
- Brigham Young University, B.A., 2001

## Affiliations

- President, Amarillo Area Bar Foundation 2019-Present
- Vice-President of the Amarillo Area Bar Foundation 2018 – 2019
- Heath has been asked to serve on the 2018 Texas Association of Defense Counsel's Nominating Committee.
- State Bar of Texas
- Amarillo Area Bar Association
- Texas Association of Defense Counsel
- Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, Boy Scouts of America, Golden Spread Council 2009-2017

## Experience

Obtained summary judgment for a church-owned financial services organization that manages retirement funds for missionaries and pastors in a multi-million-dollar case involving tortious interference with contract, fraud, conspiracy and lender liability claims arising out of a failed sale of working interests in oil and gas leases located in the Permian Basin.

Obtained verdict for an agricultural bank in a suit to recover on loans the bank made to farmers; obtained a full recovery for the bank of more than \$1.7 million; successfully defended the appeal

Obtained defense verdict for an automobile dealer against a theft claim stemming from its repair of a vehicle

Obtained summary judgment for a farmer in a suit seeking to force the sale of his multi-million-dollar farm; successfully defended the appeal

Obtained summary judgment for a winery against a breach of contract claim involving the multi-million-dollar sale by auction of another winery

Obtained summary judgment for a fire protection equipment supplier against a personal injury claim related to an elevator accident

Obtained summary judgment for the guarantors of a \$1 million promissory note against the holder of the note

Represented the guarantors of promissory notes at the arbitration of a dispute against the bank which issued the promissory notes

Represented a feedyard and its majority owners at the arbitration of a partnership dispute against its minority owners

Represented lawyers in multiple cases involving breach of fiduciary duty and legal malpractice claims

Represented a hospital and other medical service providers in contract disputes with medical service providers

Represented the owners and managers of low-income housing tax credit properties in various proceedings

Represented automobile manufacturer in personal injury and wrongful death suits involving products liability claims

Represented trucking companies against personal injury and wrongful death claims related to tractor-trailer accidents

Represented oil field service companies against personal injury and wrongful death claims

Represented hotel and hotel management company in disputes involving franchise agreements

Represented real estate companies against claims involving damage to below-slab pipes

Advised credit union on various issues relating to its members

Defended a large variety of breach of contract, personal injury and products liability claims

Advised as local counsel in proceedings in state court and federal court

## Publications

### **“Weinstein Effect: The New Legal Landscape for Sexual Harassment”**

Presenter

Texas Association of Defense Counsel and the Amarillo Area Young Lawyers Association (August 2, 2018)

### **“Damages Overview”**

Co-Author

### **“Calculating Damages in Personal Injury Litigation”**

Author/Speaker

Texas Panhandle Paralegal Association

### **“Maximizing and Minimizing Damages: The Defense Perspective”**

Co-Author

- The University of Texas School of Law, 2013 “Car Crash Seminar”, Austin, Texas
- State Bar of Texas Course, Prosecuting or Defending a Trucking or Auto Accident Case, San Antonio, Texas

### **"Business Litigation"**

Author/Speaker

Texas Panhandle Paralegal Association

- Twelve Underwood Lawyers Recently Recognized as 2023 Texas Super Lawyers