



THOMPSON&REILLEY
P.C.

Experienced Texas Defense Counsel

Pete Thompson and Steve Reilley formed Thompson & Reilley, P.C. in 1997, with the goal of providing efficient, quality legal service. The firm is AV® Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in the A.M. Best Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys.

Thompson & Reilley focuses on civil litigation, with significant experience in the following areas:

- Premises liability
- Product liability
- Transportation and trucking
- Maritime and Longshore defense
- Auto liability
- Insurance coverage and first-party claims
- Commercial litigation
- Entertainment and copyright
- Subrogation
- Local counsel

Committed to Effective Representation Across Texas

As a boutique litigation firm, the attorneys at Thompson & Reilley strive to bring accessibility and dedication to every client matter. Highlights of the firm’s capabilities are listed below.

- Firm attorneys have first chair experience in state and federal court jury trials.
- Immediate response is available for serious injury claims. Accident investigations can be launched quickly, and the firm maintains a network of experienced safety and medical experts.
- Alternative dispute resolution techniques are used, including sophisticated mediation or arbitration, to settle lower value claims as quickly and cost-effectively as possible.
- Litigation avoidance is emphasized, as evidenced by the firm’s commitment to provide continuing education seminars for clients.
- The firm regularly defends employers and carriers in Longshore claims and related litigation.
- Partners are readily available to speak with clients on current or potential litigation matters.

The firm maintains in-depth knowledge of legal and operational challenges faced by companies in leading Texas industries, including oil field service providers, shipyards, stevedoring companies, product manufacturers, retail and trucking.

Available for Panel Counsel Appointments

Thompson & Reilley is experienced in working with national and state insurance carriers, as well as self-insured entities, and welcomes consideration for additional outside counsel engagements.



Thompson & Reilley, P.C.

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1021 Main Street
Suite 1950
Houston, Texas 77002
(713) 658-0880

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Premises Liability

Commercial property owners, operators, and managers are defended by Thompson & Reilley in a wide range of premises liability matters. The firm's experience in serious injury and complex premises litigation includes:

- Defects on the premises
- Negligent acts or negligent parties
- Elevator, escalator, and moving sidewalk injuries
- Negligent security
- Inadequate security or lighting
- Slip-and-falls
- Lack of effective warning signs
- Third party criminal assault cases
- Negligence or improper premises maintenance

Insured and self-insured entities represented by the firm include grocery stores, chain and family-owned restaurants, apartment complexes, construction companies, banks, hospitals, landlords, office buildings, parking lots, retail stores, and other property owners.

Thompson & Reilley regularly defends cases across Texas from its Houston office, including many counties with a relatively low volume of premises liability litigation.

Transportation and Trucking

Thompson & Reilley defends insurers and self-insureds in transportation-related claims, including trucking, commercial auto, and cargo liability claims. Transportation claims covered by inland marine policies often involve operator negligence, driver fatigue, negligent entrustment, hiring and retention, intentional misconduct, and gross negligence.

The firm's transportation liability attorneys are well versed in compliance requirements under Texas Motor Carrier Safety Regulations and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. They are experienced in handling accidents involving hazardous materials, the use of alcohol and controlled substances, defective truck parts or accessories, and related safety violations.

Accident, safety, and medical experts are called upon as needed to provide an early evaluation of potential exposure. Whenever possible, the firm strives to help clients avoid prolonged and costly litigation in transportation cases involving serious injury or wrongful death.

Product Liability

Manufacturers, distributors, and retailers are defended by Thompson & Reilley in product liability claims based on negligence, strict product liability, and breach of warranty. The firm guides clients through the complex indemnity law applicable to Texas product claims.

Many product liability clients come from the oil and gas supply chain, including firms facing claims based on allegations of defective tubing, wire rope, pneumatic grinders, pipe moving equipment, fittings, and valves.

The full range of products defended by Thompson & Reilley includes:

- Asphalt products
- Fitness / sporting equipment
- Pipes, valves, or fittings
- Automobile seatbelts
- Full-protection equipment
- Plumbing equipment
- Commercial bakery equipment
- Gym bleachers
- Pressure cookers
- Concrete formwork
- HVAC equipment
- Refinery equipment
- Construction equipment
- Maritime equipment
- Retractable indoor seating
- Electric generators
- Motorcycle components
- Scaffolding
- Excavation safety equipment
- Overhead cranes
- Shower chairs
- Fire suppression systems
- Overhead doors
- Wheelchairs

Auto Liability

Thompson & Reilley is experienced in the defense of auto claims involving personal injury protection, uninsured or underinsured motorist, soft tissue injury, medical payments, wrongful death, and fraud. They are experienced in quickly evaluating claims to assist insurance and risk management professionals in developing the most economic strategy for case resolution.

Maritime Litigation and Longshore Defense

Thompson & Reilley handles a wide range of maritime matters, including personal injury and fatality defense, Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act defense, marine insurance coverage, subrogation claims, maritime accidents, shipyard litigation, and commercial maritime disputes.

The firm also prosecutes and defends Rule B attachment and Rule C vessel seizure actions in federal courts across the country.

Insurance Coverage and First-Party Claims

Thompson & Reilley counsels insurance carriers on coverage matters for a broad range of insurance policies, including:

- Commercial general liability (CGL)
- Maritime
- Commercial property
- Personal automobile liability
- Employment practices liability (EPL)
- Professional liability (E&O)
- Homeowners' liability
- Workers' compensation

Members of the firm are experienced in writing coverage opinions and reservation of rights letters, evaluating coverage in overlapping policies, filing declaratory judgment actions, and advocating coverage positions in court.

Commercial Litigation

Thompson & Reilley represents clients in a wide variety of commercial disputes, including business torts, breach of contract, deceptive trade practices violations, insurance coverage, and copyright infringement actions.

Entertainment & Copyright Litigation

Thompson & Reilley provides legal counsel in the field of entertainment and copyright litigation. The firm's attorneys handle cases filed in federal district courts across the country, the U.S. Courts of Appeals, and the Supreme Court of the United States. Pete Thompson is registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Subrogation

Thompson & Reilley pursues the recovery of payments in subrogation matters across Texas. State law changed significantly in 2014, when health insurance plans seeking reimbursement from third party recoveries became subject to a formula contained in Chapter 140 of the Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code.

The firm is experienced in handling subrogation claims in cases involving auto, premises and product liability, as well as workers' compensation.

Local Counsel

Thompson & Reilley's extensive experience in state courts across Texas and in the U.S. District Court for the Southern, Eastern, and Western Districts of Texas positions the firm to serve as local counsel for out-of-state attorneys with clients involved in Texas litigation.

The firm is available to guide attorneys and their clients through the ever-changing Texas litigation landscape. When necessary, Texas litigation support facilities can also be arranged.

Continuing Education Courses

Thompson & Reilley educates claims professionals on litigation management techniques. A list of course options appears below. Some topics are approved for continuing education credit from the Texas Department of Insurance.

Claims Management Topics

A review of the Stowers doctrine
Advice for Taking Recorded Statements
Resolving Fatality Claims in Texas
How to Handle Liens Defensively
Garage Keeper's Insurance Coverage
Litigation Issues for Claims Personnel
Settlement Issues in Texas

Premises Liability Seminars

Premises Liability in Texas
Hospitality Law: Claims against Retailers, Restaurants, and Hotels

Maritime Topics

Claims Investigation Techniques in Jones Act and Maritime Tort Litigation
Federal Maritime Law Preemption of State Law

Handling and Evaluating Longshore Claims

Longshore Jurisdiction and Venue
Maritime Personal Injury Law: An Overview

The Longshore & Harbor Workers' Compensation Act and the Jones Act

Contact the firm to discuss scheduling an educational seminar.

Meet Our Attorneys



Peter Thompson

Partner and
Founding Member

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thompsonreilley.com](mailto:pthompson@thompsonreilley.com)



Peter Thompson

Pete Thompson has over 27 years of legal experience in the defense of insurance carriers, insureds, and self-insured entities.

The representation of defendants in maritime personal injury litigation, including claims filed under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act and Jones Act, is a long-standing focus for Mr. Thompson. In recent years, he has expanded his practice to include complex copyright litigation, entertainment litigation, commercial litigation, and insurance coverage matters.

Mr. Thompson draws on his education and training as a mechanical engineer in analyzing complex catastrophic incidents. He is licensed to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Prior to attending law school, he worked as a mechanical design engineer for Texas Instruments and a telecommunications equipment manufacturer.

Publications & Presentations

- "State Courts and State Law: A New Force in Admiralty?" *University of San Francisco Maritime Law Journal*, Vol. 8, No. 2, Spring 1996.
- Presentation on federal maritime law preemption of state law at the "4th Annual Admiralty and Maritime Law Conference," University of Texas School of Law, 1995.
- Guest lecturer on Longshore & Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, "Maritime Personal Injury Seminar," South Texas College of Law, 1995-2006.

Awards & Recognition

AV® Preeminent Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell

Memberships

DRI
Houston Bar Association
State Bar of Texas
The Maritime Law Association of the United States

Education

J.D., The University of Texas at Austin, 1989
B.S., Mechanical Engineering, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, 1982
Certified as a Texas Mediator, A.A. White Dispute Resolution Center, 2015

Admissions

Texas, 1989
U.S. District Court, Eastern, Northern and Southern Districts of Texas, 1990
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, 1990
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 1992
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, 2003
U.S. Supreme Court, 2003



Steven S. Reilley
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Founding Member*

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thompsonreilley.com](mailto:sreilley@thompsonreilley.com)



Steven S. Reilley

Steve Reilley has over 23 years of experience representing individuals, corporations, and carriers in courts across Texas.

He represents clients in matters involving commercial litigation, trial of personal injury claims (including automobile and premises liability suits), insurance coverage disputes, product liability claims, contract matters, business disputes, and collection matters.

Mr. Reilley is certified as a mediator. He frequently volunteers his legal services to the Houston Volunteer Lawyer Program, the Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee, and the Harris County Dispute Resolution Center.

Publications

"A New Era in Seaman Status Issues," 10 U.S.F. Maritime Law Journal 1, 1997.

"To Indemnify or Not: Current Issues Addressing Contractual Indemnity Agreements and Releases," co-author, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Symposium for Rodeos, Fairs and Exhibitions, 1994.

Awards & Recognition

- AV® Preeminent Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- Named "Lawyer for the People" by H Magazine, 2009
- The State Bar of Texas inducted Mr. Reilley into the Pro Bono College in 2008 for "outstanding contributions in the delivery of legal services to low-income Texans."

Memberships

American and Houston Bar Associations
DRI
State Bar of Texas
Texas Association of Defense Counsel

Additional Language

Spanish

Education

J.D., The University of Texas at Austin, 1994
B.A., The University of Texas at Austin, 1990
Certified as a Texas Mediator, A.A. White Dispute Resolution Center, 2003

Admissions

Texas, 1994
U.S. District Court, Eastern and Southern Districts of Texas, 1995
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, 1995
U.S. Supreme Court, 2003



Jose Blazquez
Senior Associate

Jose Blazquez represents clients in legal matters involving auto and trucking accidents, business disputes and dissolutions, commercial disputes, contracts, defamation, general insurance defense, insurance coverage, landlord and tenant, malicious prosecution, professional malpractice, property owner associations, products liability, premises liability, and high-exposure torts, including wrongful death claims.

Awards & Recognition

Named "Rising Star" by Texas Super Lawyers, 2010-2011

Memberships

Houston Bar Association
State Bar of Texas

Additional Language

Spanish

Education

J.D., Texas Tech University School of Law, Lubbock, TX, 2001
B.A., University of Texas, San Antonio, TX, 1999

Admissions

Texas, 2002
U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, 2003
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, 2005



**Elizabeth
Thomas Doyle**
Senior Associate

Elizabeth Doyle concentrates her litigation practice on matters involving personal injury defense, products liability defense, fatality and wrongful death claims, insurance coverage and indemnity disputes, and maritime litigation, including claims filed under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

Memberships

Association of Women Attorneys
DRI
Houston Bar Association
Houston Young Lawyers Association
State Bar of Texas
Texas Association of Defense Counsel

Education

J.D., Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, 2005
B.A., *magna cum laude*, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, 2002

Admissions

Texas, 2005
U.S. District Court, Eastern and Southern Districts of Texas, 2008



Michael A. Martinez
Senior Associate

Michael “Andy” Martinez focuses his practice on legal matters involving product and premises liability, construction defects, trucking and auto accidents, dram shop, breach of contract, general property damage, the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act (“DTPA”), wrongful death, and other catastrophic damages cases.

He also counsels clients on warranty and other customer-related claims, product manual and literature development, customer and employee policies, contracts and other business agreements, business structuring and formation, and product liability issues.

Memberships

State Bar of Texas

Education

J.D., The University of Texas School of Law, Austin, TX, 1997

B.A., The University of Texas, Austin, TX, 1993

Admissions

Texas, 2000

U.S. District Court, Eastern and Southern Districts of Texas, 2000



Lisa Brindle Talbot
Of Counsel

Lisa Brindle Talbot concentrates her practice on commercial litigation, products liability, personal injury defense, the Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act, and insurance coverage and indemnity claims.

Ms. Talbot represents clients at hearings, depositions, mediations, and arbitrations at the state and federal level. She prepares and conducts all aspects of litigation, including the negotiation of settlement agreements and contract terms. She works aggressively to assess risk, recommend suitable defense strategies, and resolve claims cost-effectively.

Awards & Recognition

Named “Top 50 Black Attorneys” by *d-mars.com Business Journal*, 2014

Memberships

Downtown Women’s Group

DRI

Houston Bar Association

Maryland State Bar Association

Spouses of Houston Barristers

State Bar of Texas

Education

J.D., American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C., 2001

B.A., University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 1997

Admissions

Maryland, 2001

Texas, 2004

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, 2004

Billing Rates

Thompson & Reilley offers competitive rates for the defense of claims in the Texas market.

Electronic Billing

The firm uses TimeSlips by Sage and supports a range of electronic billing software services, including but not limited to:

- Bottomline Legal-X
- Legal Tracker, formerly Serengeti Law, from Thomson Reuters
- Quovant Enterprise Legal Management

Diversity Commitment

Thompson & Reilley, P.C. is dedicated to creating and maintaining an environment that promotes diversity and teamwork for all employees, regardless of gender, age, race, color, religious creed, national origin, physical disability, marital, parental or veteran status, or sexual orientation, gender identity and expression. This equal opportunity policy applies to all activities, including, but not limited to, recruiting, hiring, training, compensation, promotions, and benefits.

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Ethics and Professional Liability

Neither the firm, nor any of its attorneys, has been subject to any disciplinary action by a court of law or state bar association.

The firm maintains a professional liability policy through Allied World Assurance Company. Insurance coverage is \$1 million / \$1 million.

Firm Contact Information

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