David M. Bell | Partner

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David Bell is a Certified Specialist in Injury & Wrongful Death Litigation and is a member of the State Bar of Arizona Personal Injury and Wrongful Death Advisory Commission and served as its Chair from 2018 to 2021.

Since 2001, David has been a member of Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel (FDCC), an invitation-only organization of attorneys who focus their practice on the defense of civil claims and representation of insurers and corporations. He has chaired the FDCC's Extra-Contractual Liability Section and served on the FDCC Admissions Committee.

David is also a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), a national organization of trial attorneys, both plaintiff and defense, whose criteria for membership include extensive trial experience, excellence in the courtroom, and recognition of peers and judges He served as President of ABOTA's Phoenix Chapter (2019) and remains on its Board as its Past-President.

David Bell's trial and appellate experience and insurance work has earned him an AV-Preeminent® Peer Review Rating™ by Martindale-Hubbell® and recognition in the Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers (annually since 1994). In addition, he is a Super Lawyers and *Best Lawyers*® honoree.

David has made numerous presentations at seminars sponsored by the FDCC, State Bar of Arizona, Maricopa County Bar Association, National Business Institute, Lorman Education Services, clients and others, on topics including, insurance law and bad faith litigation, personal injury litigation, law firm management, and uninsured/underinsured motorist claims.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Appellate Law
- Insurance Bad Faith Defense
- Insurance Coverage
- Commercial Litigation
- Governmental Liability
- Products Liability
- Malpractice Litigation

CERTIFICATION

- Certified Specialist in Injury & Wrongful Death Litigation, Arizona Board of Legal Specialization

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

- Arizona, 1981
- U.S. District Court, District of Arizona
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

HONORS & AWARDS

- AV-Preeminent® Peer Review Rating™ by Martindale-Hubbell®
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Insurance Law, Litigation-Insurance, 2020-present
- Super Lawyers, 2009-present
- Arizona's Finest Lawyers

ARTICLES AND LECTURES

- "Focus on the Insuring Clause: Elements as They Relate to Construction Defect Claims," *FDCC Quarterly,* Vol. 57, No. 3, Spring 2007
- "*State Farm v. Campbell:* Its Anticipated Effects for Bad Faith Litigation," *FDCC Quarterly*, Vol. 54, No. 1, Fall 2003
- "Survivor ESI" (co-author), *FDCC E-Discovery Survival Manual*, 2007
- "Insurance Bad Faith: A Compendium of State Law" (author and regional editor), Defense Research Institute, 2004, 2006, 2010
- "Discovery" (chapter co-author), Arizona Personal Injury Practice Guide, 1991

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- American Board of Trial Advocates: Advocate; Member, Phoenix Chapter Board, 2014-present
- American Bar Association
- Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel, 2001-present
- Defense Research Institute
- State Bar of Arizona: Personal Injury and Wrongful Death Advisory Commission, 2013-present
- Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education: Board of Directors 2022
- Fellow, Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education
- Fellow, American Bar Foundation
- Maricopa County Bar Association

PUBLISHED DECISIONS

- *Allen v. United States*, 588 F.Supp. 247 (D.Utah, 1984), reversed, 816 F.2d 1417, cert denied, 44 U.S. 1004
- *State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co. v. Johnson*, 151 Ariz. 591, 729 P.2d 945 (App. 1986)
- *Ambrose v. Illinois-California Express, Inc.*, 151 Ariz. 527, 729 P.2d 331 (App. 1986)
- *Love v. Liberty Mut. Ins. Co.*, 158 Ariz. 36, 760 P.2d 1085 (App. 1988)
- *Deese v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 168 Ariz. 337, 813 P.2d 318 (App. 1991)
- *Daggett v. County of Maricopa*, 160 Ariz. 80, 770 P.2d 384 (App. 1989)
- *State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co. v. Lindsey*, 182 Ariz. 329, 897 P.2d 631 (1995)

- *California Casualty Ins. Co. v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 185 Ariz. 165, 913 P.2d 505 (App. 1996)
- *State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co. v. Arizona Board of Chiropractic Examiners*, 187 Ariz. 526, 931 P.2d 426 (App. 1996)
- *Larsen v. Decker*, 196 Ariz, 239, 995 P.2d 281 (App. 2000)
- *Schritter v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 201 Ariz. 391, 36 P.3d 739 (2001)
- *Demko v. State Farm Mutual Auto. Ins. Co.*, 204 Ariz. 497, 65 P.3d 446 (App. 2003)
- *State Farm Fire & Casualty v. Grabowski*, 214 Ariz. 188, 150 P.3d 275 (App. 2007)
- *Lennar Corp. v. United National Insur. Co., et al.*, 214 Ariz. 255, 151 P.3d 538, (App.2007)
- *Desert Mountain Properties, Ltd. Partnership v. Liberty Mut. Fire Ins. Co.*, 225 Ariz. 194, 236 P.3d 421 (App. 2010)
- *Quihuis v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 748 F.3d. 911 (9thCir. 2014) (Certified Question to Arizona Supreme Court)
- *Quihuis v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 235 Ariz. 536, 334 P.3d 719 (2014) (Response to Certified Question from U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals)

EDUCATION

- J.D., With Distinction, University of Iowa, 1981
- B.A., University of Iowa, 1976