

KELLY HART

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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BIOGRAPHY

Michael A. McConnell is chairman of Kelly Hart & Hallman's Business Reorganization and Bankruptcy practice. Since his graduation from the University of Texas School of Law in 1975, Mr. McConnell has gained a wide variety of experience in several practice areas of civil law, both as an attorney in private practice and as a member of the judiciary. A former U.S. Bankruptcy Judge from the Northern District of Texas, Mr. McConnell has represented secured and unsecured creditors, trustees, committees, and debtors in some of the most significant bankruptcy cases in this region. He has served as a Chapter 11 Operating Trustee and Chapter 11 Examiner in several complex Chapter 11 cases. He has also been involved in a variety of business, litigation, and commercial law engagements.

Mr. McConnell has mediated a number of controversies involving business and commercial law issues of all types. He is an experienced arbitrator and currently serves as a member of the Panel of Neutrals of the American Arbitration Association and the International Centre for Dispute Resolution and the AAA's Large Complex Case Panel. Mr. McConnell has arbitrated a number of energy-related disputes and has been appointed to the prestigious National Energy Panel of the AAA. He is currently a member of Advisory Board of the University of Texas Law School Center for Global Energy, International Arbitration and Environmental Law.

Mr. McConnell has served in a number of consulting/testifying expert witness engagements in both federal and state court in Texas and Louisiana. These issues have involved standards of professional conduct and professional liability, bankruptcy substantive law and procedural issues, Texas state law, and professional compensation. His expert reports have been filed in the High Court of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Superior Court of the Province of Quebec, District of Montreal.

AFFILIATIONS AND HONORS

AFFILIATIONS

- Eldon B. Mahon Inn of Court, Emeritus
- The American Law Institute, Member
- American Arbitration Association, Large Case Panel, Member
- American Arbitration Association, National Energy Panel, Member
- American Arbitration Association International Centre Dispute Resolution Bankruptcy Insolvency Panel, Member
- Texas Bar Foundation
- Tarrant County Bar Association

- University of Texas, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson Center for Energy, Law and Business, Advisory Council
- American College of Bankruptcy, Fellow

HONORS

- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 1989-2021
- Listed in Lawdragon 500 Leading U.S. Bankruptcy & Restructuring Lawyers, 2020
- Top Attorney, *Fort Worth, Texas* magazine, 2015-2020
- Top Attorney in Bankruptcy and Workout Law, *360 West* magazine, 2018-2020
- Texas Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters, 2003-2020
- Top Attorney in Arbitration and Mediation Law, *360 West* magazine, 2018
- Top Attorney in Bankruptcy Law and Corporate Counsel, *360 West* magazine, 2017
- Top Rated Lawyer in Corp. Restructuring & Bankruptcy, Martindale-Hubbel, 2013
- Recipient of the National Foundation of the American Inns of Court A. Sherman Christensen Award in recognition of his efforts to improve the American legal profession, 2013
- Eldon B. Mahon Inn of Court, James B. Barlow Award for fostering ethics, civility, and professionalism in the practice of law, 2012
- Robert B. Wilson Distinguished Service Award by the Bankruptcy Law Section of the State Bar of Texas, 2011

EDUCATION

- The University of Texas School of Law, J.D., 1975
- Loyola University of the South, B.A., 1969

ADMISSIONS

- State Bar of Texas, 1976
- U.S. Supreme Court, 1997
- Supreme Court of Texas, 1976
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, 1980
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit, 1981
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit, 1987

SPEECHES & PUBLICATIONS

- Featured Speaker, "When Your Tenant/Customer Goes Bankrupt: Issues and Answers", American Railway Development Association Executive Forum, January 2019
- Speaker, Ethics Session, Fifth Circuit Bankruptcy Bench-Bar Conference, 2018
- "The Formation and Functioning of a Creditors Committee," UT Law Bankruptcy Conference, November 2015
- Whether to Declare Bankruptcy: A Difficult Decision, *Winning Legal Strategies for Bankruptcy and Restructuring*, Aspatore Books Publisher, December 2005
- "Ethics in Bankruptcy Law. Representing the Debtor in Bankruptcy Cases: More Mines in the Minefield?" *The Bencher* (a publication of the American Inns of Court), September/October 2005
- Numerous articles in connection with the Annual Bankruptcy Conference of the University of Texas School of Law in the Advanced Bankruptcy Course of the State Bar of Texas