



Mr. Mussalli is a civil litigator top rated (AV) by Martindale-Hubbell who handles cases all over the country. He is licensed to practice law in Texas and New York. He began his legal career in New York City in 1995 as an associate with a large insurance defense firm. While in New York, his practice areas included medical malpractice, products liability, toxic tort, construction, premises and automobile liability. In 1998, he relocated to The Woodlands, Texas and has since expanded his areas of practice to include complex commercial and business, serious personal injury and probate and estate litigation matters. Prior to establishing his own practice, Mr. Mussalli was a principal at Cokinos, Bosien & Young in the firm's Houston office and most recently, spent over three years as a partner at Gauntt & Krupstadt in The Woodlands, Texas.

Mr. Mussalli has first and second-chaired many cases to jury verdict in various courts in New York and Texas and is often retained by other attorneys as trial counsel. Among the past cases in which Mr. Mussalli has had shared responsibility have been two major marine construction disputes: one involved the *Deepwater Nautilus* and the other concerned *Pride Kansas*. Both cases involved very complex technology and business integration, extremely voluminous project files, multiple parties, extensive analysis of critical path failures, coordination of trades and substantial damages or potential exposure. In addition, he has also prosecuted and defended wrongful death and serious personal injury cases both on construction sites and plants as well as elsewhere.

He also has extensive experience in alternative dispute resolution of cases through mediation and arbitration under the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and American Arbitration Association (AAA) rules. His clients include both large and small business entities as well as individuals.

Mr. Mussalli earned his B.A. in Psychology from St. John's University, New York in 1992 and his J.D. in 1995 from St. John's University School of Law. He is a lifetime member of Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology. As an undergraduate student, he competed nationally as a charter member of the University's Mock Trial Team and returns to his alma mater yearly to assist with judging. While in law school, he was named a Senior Board member of the Moot Court Honor Society and received numerous awards for his advocacy skills. He often volunteers his time as a judge for the University of Houston School of Law and South Texas College of Law internal trial competitions.

Mr. Mussalli has authored many articles and given presentations on federal procedure, personal injury and professional liability, including architect liability. Written works and presentations include: Co- Author, *Free Speech, Liability in Personal Injury Lawsuit*, New York Law Journal, January 1998; Author, *Tick-Tock: Rules on the Removal Clock*, The Review of Litigation, Vol. 19 (Winter 2000), reprinted with permission in State Bar of Texas Construction Law Newsletter, February, 2000; Author, *From Med-Mal Cases to Design Defect Claims: Exploring Expert Affidavits in Suits Against Architects and Engineers*, Texas Lawyer, February 19, 2007; Conference Faculty Member and Presenter, *Liability and Causes of Action for Design Errors and Omissions*, The Basics Course in Texas Construction Law sponsored by the State Bar of Texas Construction Law Section, October 29, 2010; Speaker, *Legislative and Case Law Update: Rules to Live By for the Texas Architect*, August 20, 2004, AIA, Houston Chapter.

Mr. Mussalli is a member of the Montgomery County Bar Association, the Woodlands Bar Association, the Woodlands Young Lawyers Association, the Harris County Bar Association and the Houston Young Lawyers Association. He is a member of the Litigation and Construction sections of the State Bar of Texas. In addition to being licensed to practice in Texas, he is also admitted to practice in both New York State Supreme and various federal courts.

Mr. Mussalli was named a life member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum and was recognized as one of



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Houston's "Top Lawyers Under 40" by H Texas Magazine in 2004, 2005 and 2006. In addition, in 2008 and 2009, his name appeared in the Super Lawyers "Rising Stars" edition published by Law and Politics in connection with Texas Monthly. Approximately 2.5% of the best up-and-coming attorneys in the state are honored with this distinction as a result of a survey process, including personal observations and credential review by an attorney led research team.