

Suzanne Swaner

Partner

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Suzanne has tried more than a dozen products liability cases in state and federal courts in Texas and beyond. She has spent decades learning about her clients' products and defending their design and performance in courtrooms nationwide. While Suzanne's skill set readily translates across product lines, she has significant experience in the automotive arena, where she defends her clients in high-exposure cases involving catastrophic injury or death. Suzanne has also defended industrial equipment and utility task vehicle manufacturers in high exposure litigation. She has served in leading roles in multidistrict litigation and as national and regional counsel for her clients.

Experience

The following is a selected sampling of matters and is provided for informational purposes only. Past success does not indicate the likelihood of success in any future matter.

Experience

- Stand-up speaking roles collectively covering every phase of trial in challenging jurisdictions in Texas, California, Arkansas, and Florida
- Litigating products liability claims from start to finish, including factual investigation, developing the defense narrative, coordinating expert analysis, and leading all aspects of fact and expert discovery and depositions, pretrial proceedings and trial for automotive, recreational vehicle, industrial equipment, boat and consumer product manufacturers
- Managing Texas state court multidistrict litigation for automotive manufacturer, including coordinating with nationwide defense efforts in complex litigation

Representative Cases

- Directed verdict, affirmed by 5th Circuit, in death case involving allegedly defective curtain shield airbag (United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division)

Education

Southern Methodist University Dedman
School of Law, JD, cum laude (1997)

University of North Carolina at Chapel
Hill, BA (1993)

Admissions

Missouri

Texas

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Northern District
of Texas

U.S. District Court for the Southern District
of Texas

U.S. District Court for the Western District
of Missouri

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District
of Missouri

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District
of Texas

U.S. District Court for the Western District
of Texas

Practice Areas

[Products Liability - Consumer &
Mechanical](#)

Industries

- Two defense verdicts in personal injury cases involving allegedly defective seats (United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, Marshall Division and Upshur County, Texas)
- Defense verdict in death case involving carbon monoxide poisoning in boat case (Galveston County, Texas)
- Litigated personal injury case against utility task vehicle manufacturer that resulted in a settlement and dismissal in favor of the manufacturer from after-market component part supplier during trial

Recognitions

The bar rules of some states require that the standards for an attorney's inclusion in certain public accolades or recognitions be provided. When such accolades or recognitions are listed, a hyperlink is provided that leads to a description of the respective selection methodology.

- [Super Lawyers Magazine](#), Texas Rising Stars (2009–2011)

Professional Activities

- State Bar of Texas (1997–present)
- American Bar Association, Member (2015–present)
 - ABA TIPS Emerging Issues in Motor Vehicle Product Liability Litigation Planning Committee Member (2016–2018, 2020)
- LawMoms, P.C., Founding Member (2013–present)

Community

- LawMoms, PC, Founding Member (2013 to present)

[Automobiles & Other Motor Vehicles](#)

[Consumer Products & Retail](#)

[Manufacturing](#)

Articles & Speeches

Events/Speaking Engagements

[2023 Motor Vehicle Product Liability Litigation Conference](#)- Speaker (April 20, 2023)

Product Liability - Rear Impact Testing Update; SWAG CLE/Webinar - Speaker (October 12, 2022)

Juries & COVID-19: Stopping the Erosion of the Jury Trial Webinar - Co-Presenter (July 2020)

Juries & COVID-19: Learning From the Past for Trials in the Future Webinar - Co-Presenter (May 2020)

Fragile, Please Be Careful! Biomechanical Analysis Considerations For Frail Plaintiffs and Seniors, ABA TIPS Emerging Issues in Motor Vehicle Product Liability Litigation - Co-Presenter (April 2018)

Significant Verdicts in Automotive Product Liability Litigation: What Worked? ABA TIPS Emerging Issues in Motor Vehicle Product Liability Litigation - Co-Presenter (April 2015, April 2016)