

## Trailblazing Commercial Litigation Firm Has Earned the Trust of Clients and Respect of Peers

Texas  
Legal Profiles

As Seen In ... *Forbes*, June 30, 2008

# Figari & Davenport, LLP

More than 20 years ago, a couple of trial lawyers had a vision for a new kind of firm: a smaller, boutique model dedicated to commercial litigation. It would be staffed by top-notch attorneys who knew their way around a courtroom.

Figari & Davenport, entering its third decade as one of the original and premier litigation boutiques in Dallas, is staying true to its vision. It is one of the region's go-to firms for all aspects of commercial and business litigation, insurance litigation, labor and employment, securities litigation, arbitration, and municipal litigation.

Founding partners Ernest Figari and Mark Davenport knew at the time, that smaller firms devoted exclusively to complex commercial litigation were rare. The two left a large firm to pioneer the concept.

"You get tired of the politics of the big firm. We founded a law firm from the ground up to practice commercial trial law. At the time nobody was doing that," explains Davenport. "The game plan was to get the best trial lawyers who really wanted to try cases and were really good at it, then build on that base."

It is a vision that worked.

"Many regard us as one of the top commercial litigation firms in Texas and even nationally," says Davenport.

It is a model as potent today as when the firm was founded. "Many in the business community are rebelling against high hourly rates," says Davenport. "They want the talent, the good lawyers, but there is a limit to what they are willing to pay for commercial litigation. Because of our size, we are able to control our overhead and pass the savings on to our clients."



**"Lawyer for lawyer, we have exceptional trial depth in our firm. Not only is there strong talent at the top, there is talent all the way through."**

— Mark Davenport

### Six Figari & Davenport Attorneys Named in *The Best Lawyers in America*.

It takes first-class lawyers to make a boutique firm truly work. Figari & Davenport has proven it has a stunning level of talent under one roof. Remarkably, six (pictured below) of its 27 members, have been listed in the prestigious *Best Lawyers in America*.

Figari & Davenport has also been named by *Fortune* magazine as a "Go To Law Firm of the Top U.S. Companies in the Labor and Employment Practice Area." In addition, eight Figari & Davenport attorneys have been named Texas Super Lawyers, and four have been named Texas Rising Stars by *Texas Monthly*. Davenport is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, a membership offered only by invitation to 1 percent of licensed attorneys in the state who have practiced trial law at least 15 years and meet the highest standards.

The unusually high level of expertise is not an accident.

"We compete with the big firms for the top talent, then we train them in a clerkship program and as associates," says Davenport. "Because we are a smaller firm, we give them more hands-on work, and they develop quickly."

Davenport, who has handled over 100 jury trials, knows going to trial is not a task for the meek. "Winning a lawsuit is like landing a jet airplane," he says. "You have to do everything correctly and at the right time, keeping the plane on the glide path. When you successfully land the plane, that is like the verdict. You win by preparation and execution of a game plan."



**Seated:** Mark Davenport, Ernest Figari  
**Standing:** Gary Eisenstat, Andy Jubinsky, Erin Dwyer, Don Colleluori

FIGARI & DAVENPORT

3400 Bank of America Plaza • 901 Main Street • Dallas, Texas 75202  
214-939-2000 • [www.figdav.com](http://www.figdav.com)

©2008 EMI Network Inc. • 800-999-1950 • [www.eminetwork.com](http://www.eminetwork.com)