

Spencer Hall

HALL & GEORGE PLLC
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Spencer Hall has more than 40 years of experience litigating cases in state and federal courts. Spencer's practice focuses on commercial disputes, including investment fraud, business torts, contract disputes, employment, consumer protection, and intellectual property. Spencer has been honored by his peers as a *Washington Law & Politics* "Super Lawyer" every year since 1999. He is a Fellow of the International Society of Barristers, the American College of Trial Lawyers, and the Litigation Counsel of America.

Education

- *University of Virginia*, J.D., 1975
 - Order of the Coif
- *Georgia Institute of Technology*, Bachelors of Industrial Engineering, 1969
 - Alpha Pi Mu (Industrial Engineering Honor Society)

Practice History

- *Hall & George PLLC* (Seattle, WA)
formerly known as *Spencer Hall & Associates PLLC*
and *Hall Zanzig Claflin McEachern PLLC*
Founding Member, 1998-Present
- *Mundt, MacGregor, Happel, Falconer, Zulauf & Hall* (Seattle, WA)
Partner, 1982-1998
- *Bogle & Gates* (Seattle, WA)
Partner, 1981-1982; Associate Attorney, 1975-1981

Representative Cases

- *Rigby v. Mastro, et al.* Represented bankruptcy Trustee in litigation against the debtor, Michael R. Mastro, his wife, and other parties to recover assets fraudulently transferred into various trusts before the bankruptcy was filed. Trial resulted in judgments totaling in excess of \$7 million, and recovery of

property valued in excess of \$15 million at the time of transfer. Also defeated more than \$12 million of liens asserted against the property by debtor's associates. (U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Washington)

- *Rigby v. Hazelrigg, et al.* Represented bankruptcy Trustee in litigation against Thomas R. Hazelrigg, III, and related parties, to collect amounts owed to the debtor, Michael R. Mastro. Obtained judgments totaling in excess of \$76 million against Hazelrigg, and judgments totaling more than \$50 million against a company and an individual associated with Hazelrigg. (U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Washington)
- *First Sound Bank v. Larasco, et al.* Successfully defended against more than \$17 million in claims asserted by First Sound Bank and Wells Fargo Equipment Finance against sellers of equipment leasing business. Jury awarded more than \$3.5 million to clients on their counterclaims. (U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington)
- *Ennis v. Mortgagee Lending, Inc., et al.* Obtained unanimous jury verdict in favor of plaintiff Robert Ennis on conversion claim against majority shareholder of bankrupt mortgage lending business. (U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California)
- *Shoreline Bank v. Timber Ridge Properties, LLC, et al.* Represented guarantors of a failed real estate development in an action brought by a lender seeking to recover \$8 million. The lawsuit was settled on favorable terms during the jury trial involving the guarantors' lender liability counterclaims. (Superior Court of Washington for Snohomish County)
- *Hardwood Sawmill Litigation.* Management and ownership dispute involving three hardwood mills. Obtained arbitration award re-establishing majority owner's control of disputed mills and awarding damages against former manager and minority owner based on breaches of fiduciary duty. (American Arbitration Association)
- *SmartContractor v. RightWorks Corp.* Obtained a \$2.6 million jury verdict in favor of the client, SmartContractor, Inc., a Seattle start-up company in the high-tech industry whose website business failed as a result of defective software procured from a major software vendor. (Superior Court of Washington for King County)
- *Lambert v. Ackerley.* Obtained a \$13 million jury verdict, including punitive damages, in favor of six employees fired by Barry Ackerley and the Seattle

Supersonics for requesting overtime compensation. The trial judge reduced the punitive damages award to \$4.5 million. Following cross appeals, the employees collected a judgment totaling more than \$8 million. (U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington; Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals)

- *B-Line Holdings, LLC Litigation*. Represented founder of leading provider of consumer debt purchasing, processing and recovery services in litigation with an equity fund concerning the terms on which the company could be sold. Following a two-week trial to the court, and a series of revisions to the proposed sales terms favoring the founder, the court entered partial judgment permitting sale of the company. (Circuit Court of Oregon for Multnomah County)
- *Sahara Gaming Corp. v. Miller*. Successfully defended and settled state and federal securities fraud claims in excess of \$20 million asserted against officers and directors of Mississippi gaming corporation. (U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada)
- *Fidelity Funding Company v. Estate of Eugene Horbach*. Successfully defended against fraud and RICO claims in excess of \$12 million. Following one-week bench trial, obtained dismissal of all claims against Estate except a conversion claim of less than \$500,000. (Superior Court of Washington for King County)

Arbitrator, Mediator, Special Master

- Spencer serves as an arbitrator or mediator in commercial litigation
- Member, ADR Roundtable
- Mediator in Seattle Police Department Citizen-Police Mediation
- Special Master, *In Re Air Crash Disaster*, MDL No. 1276, U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington

Professional Activities

- Adjunct Trial Counsel, *Washington State Bar Association*
- Trustee, *Federal Bar Association*, 2008-2009

- Chair, 2009 and 2003–2005; Co-Chair, 2007-2008
Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee
Federal Bar Association, Western District of Washington
- Treasurer, *Federal Bar Association, 2005-2007*
Western District of Washington
- Chair, *Civil Justice Reform Act Advisory Group, 1999-2000*
U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington
Committee Member: 1995-2004
- Lawyer Delegate, *Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, 1985-1988*

Continuing Legal Education Speaker

- Co-Chair, “High Profile Cases”
Washington State Bar Association – October 17, 2007
- “Northwest Deposition Program”
1998-2000, 2002-2003, 2005-2006
National Institute for Trial Advocacy
- “Winning without Trial - Effective Strategies for Success”
Washington State Bar Association - April 29, 2005
- “A Day with Judge Coughenour and Colleagues”
Emerald Education Group - December 16, 2004
- “Real Evidence for the Trial Practitioner in Washington”
Lorman Educational Services - September 25, 2001
- “Advanced Trial Advocacy” Course No. E521
Guest Speaker, *University of Washington School of Law*

Associations

- Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers
- Fellow, International Society of Barristers
- Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America
- Federal Bar Association, Western District of Washington
- Washington State Bar Association
- Washington State Association for Justice

Admitted to Practice

- Washington State Courts
- United States Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Western & Eastern Districts of Washington