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Location
New Orleans, LA

Practice Areas
- Arbitration and Mediation (ADR)
- Commercial Transactions
- Intellectual Property

Jurisdictions
- Louisiana

Bill Messersmith is of counsel in the firm. He handles contracts, corporate, banking and security rights issues, and commercial and insurance litigation. His work includes: (i) the organization and involuntary and voluntary dissolution of corporations (profit and non-profit), partnerships and limited liability companies; (ii) mergers and acquisitions, sales of assets, shareholders' and operating agreements, and minority purchases and shareholder/interest rights; (iii) drafting contracts, including international, leases, agreements for purchase and sale of businesses, employment, purchases of crude oil, product marketing, affreightment, and indemnification; (iv) banking, including loan agreements, security devices and workouts; (v) construction law; (vi) preparing legal opinions relating to a variety of business transactions and interpretations of contracts and insurance policies; and (vii) litigation and arbitration involving breaches of contract, insurance agent errors and omissions, libel, slander, malicious prosecution, patents, trademarks and tradenames and securities laws violations.

He is an experienced arbitrator, having on several occasions served both as chairman and as a member of panels of arbitrators as well as a solo arbitrator.

Professional Activities and Honors
American Bar Association
-- Business Law and Litigation Sections
Federal Bar Association
Louisiana State Bar Association
-- Board of Governors, 1986-88, 1989-91
-- House of Delegates, 1968-1986
-- Corporate and Business Law Section, Chairman, 1973-74
-- Law Reform Committee, 1965-67
New Orleans Bar Association
-- Nominating Committee, 1979
-- Committee on Legislation, 1973-1989
American Judicature Society

Education
J.D., Tulane University, 1959
B.B.A., Tulane University, 1955