spottsfain
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Hugh M. Fain, III

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION, SHAREHOLDER

Hugh Fain has been a litigator and dispute resolver for over forty years. With broad experience as a civil trial attorney, his practice has focused on commercial and business litigation. Hugh is licensed in both Texas and Virginia.

Hugh has tried cases and resolved disputes involving multi-million dollar contract breaches, corporate governance, preservation of intellectual property rights, business tort claims, employment discrimination claims, construction and real estate litigation, trust and estates litigation, and shareholder, membership, or partnership disputes. He understands the mechanics of a business dispute and the disruption that prolonged legal proceedings bring to companies and to the executives who lead them. He also understands the importance of assessing the risks and rewards associated with resolving business disputes, whether inside or outside of the courtroom.

Hugh tries cases in both state and federal trial courts. He has argued cases before the Virginia Supreme Court, the Virginia Court of Appeals, and federal circuit courts of appeal. Hugh also has experience handling matters and trying cases before administrative agencies, including the Virginia State Corporation Commission.

Hugh is Past President of the Virginia Bar Association and Past President of the Bar Association of the City of Richmond. He has been named by his peers in Chambers USA and Best Lawyers in America in four categories; Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Employment Litigation, and Intellectual Property Litigation. Hugh is a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation.

EDUCATION

- University of Virginia School of Law (J.D., 1983) Raven Society
- Virginia Military Institute (B.A., Economics, *with distinction*, 1980)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Virginia Bar Association
  - Past President
- Richmond Bar Association
  - Past President
  - Finance Committee
- VMI Board of Visitors
  - Member, July 2017-June 2025
- VMI Foundation, Inc.
  - Past President
- VMI Alumni Association, Inc.
  - Past President
- Innsbrook Rotary Club
  - Past President

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Richmond Bar Association's Hunter M. Martin Professionalism Award, 2026
- *Virginia Lawyers Weekly* Hall of Fame, 2024
- *Chambers USA* 2014-2026 for Litigation - General Commercial (Virginia), Senior Statespeople
- The Virginia Bar Association's 2016 Walker Award of Merit
- *Virginia Lawyers Weekly*'s Leaders in the Law 2014
- *Virginia Business* magazine's Legal Elite 2003 - 2025 for Civil Litigation
- *Best Lawyers in America* 2010-2027 for Bet-the-Company Litigation, Richmond, Virginia
- *Best Lawyers in America* 2008-2027 for Commercial Litigation, Richmond, Virginia
- *Best Lawyers in America* 2011-2027 for Litigation - Labor and Employment, Richmond, Virginia
- *Best Lawyers in America* 2011-2027 for Litigation - Intellectual Property, Richmond, Virginia
- *Virginia Super Lawyers* for Business Litigation 2006-2026
  - Top 100 Virginia, 2012-2018; 2021-2025
  - Top 50 Richmond, 2012-2018; 2021-2025
  - Top 50 Virginia, 2009
- *Best Lawyers in America,* Lawyer of the Year 2021, 2023, 2025 for Bet-the-Company Litigation in Richmond, Virginia

VIRGINIA LAWYERS HALL OF FAME

virginia LEGAL ELITE BUSINESS

HUGH M. FAIN III 2027 RECOGNIZED BY Best Lawyers

RATED BY Super Lawyers Hugh M. Fain, III 2026

RATED BY Super Lawyers Hugh M. Fain, III 20 YEARS

RATED BY Super Lawyers Top 50 Richmond SuperLawyers.com

RATED BY Super Lawyers Top 100 Virginia SuperLawyers.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Construction
- Employment Law
- Insurance Coverage and Litigation
- Intellectual Property and Information Technology
- Legislative and Governmental Relations
- Litigation
- Local Counsel - Virginia

- Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

- Jury Trial Strategies: Tips, Tricks and War Stories; Moderator, 2024
- Essentials of Initial Pleadings, 2024
- Faculty, Virginia State Bar Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Course, 2013-2016
- Backpack to Briefcase, 2014
- The Ins and Outs of Preparing, Taking and Defending Fact and Expert Depositions, 2013
- Ethical and Other Considerations in Business Divorces, 2012
- Best Practices in Circuit Court: An Interactive Judges' Forum for Richmond Area Litigators, Moderator, 2012
- Difficult Depositions, 2009
- Best Practices in Circuit Court: An Interactive Judges' Forum for Richmond-Area Litigators: Pleadings, Practice, Discovery, and Expert Witnesses, 2009
- Recovering Attorneys' Fees in Commercial Litigation, 2000.

PUBLISHED WORKS

- *Pooling and Unitization in Virginia: The Law, the Regulations and the Reality*, Landman - Official Journal of the American Association of Professional Landmen, May/June, 1993