

Maria Wyckoff Boyce

Partner

Houston

Biography

Maria Wyckoff Boyce prosecutes and defends complex commercial and intellectual property cases in the energy and technology industries throughout the United States. In 2021, she won a US\$152,290,000 jury verdict in the Eastern District of Texas, which was the largest trade secrets verdict in the country that year. She has also secured several other plaintiff and defense victories for her clients in cases involving damages of eight, nine, and 10 figures.

Maria has tried fraud, trade secret misappropriation, breach of contract, products liability, personal injury, and employment cases to Texas juries in state and federal court. She has tried patent infringement cases to juries in Delaware, California, and Texas. Maria also has handled several high-profile employee benefits cases. She has been named the "Litigator of the Week" by *The American Lawyer* and a *Law360* MVP. Her trial results have also been highlighted in *The National Law Journal*, *Law360*, *Texas Lawyer*, and *Texas Lawbook*. She is also featured in Hogan Lovells' *Proof in Trial* podcast.

Maria is ranked by *Chambers* and is an elected member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). She has been named a "Woman on the Move" by Texas Executive Women, a "Premier Woman in the Law" by the Association of Women Attorneys, one of Texas' "Top 50 Women Lawyers," one of Houston's "50 Most Influential Women," and one of the "25 Most Powerful



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Practices

Commercial Litigation

Corporate and Securities Litigation

Energy Disputes

Technology Litigation

IP Litigation, Arbitration, and
Alternative Dispute Resolution

Industries

Energy and Natural Resources

Technology and Telecoms

Education and admissions

Education

and Influential Women in Texas." Maria was also recognized in the *Houston Business Journal's* "Who's Who in Energy-Legal (2016–2017)."

Maria is proud that her United States senators have selected her to serve on the bipartisan committee that interviews federal judicial candidates for district court and Fifth Circuit vacancies in Texas. She was also appointed by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas to the Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel in 2018.

An active speaker about legal developments in the areas of intellectual property damages, trends in energy litigation, and expert witnesses, Maria recently authored a chapter on expert witnesses in ALM's *Texas Business Litigation* (2022) and an article about expert communications and reports in the State Bar of Texas' *The Advocate*. She was a featured speaker at the 2018 Women in Energy Leadership Initiative and the Advanced Civil Trial Law Course of the State Bar of Texas. She has spoken at the National Association of Women Judges annual conference and the Harris County Civil Judges annual conference. Maria is honored to have served on the board of directors and board of trustees of several educational, arts, and religious organizations.

Within Hogan Lovells, Maria has led the Oil, Gas, and LNG sector of the Hogan Lovells global Energy and Natural Resources group and served as a member of the global leadership team of the firm's Litigation, Arbitration, and Employment practice.

Representative experience

Obtained US\$152,290,000 jury verdict for ResMan, LLC for trade secrets misappropriation, breach of contract, and tortious interference with contract by the defendants.

Represented Tech Pharmacy Services, LLC in a jury verdict involving multimillion-dollar breach of contract claim, affirmed on appeal by the Federal Circuit.

J.D., Northwestern University School of Law, 1988

B.A., Connecticut College, cum laude, 1985

Memberships

Alley Theatre, former Director

American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), Member

American Intellectual Property Law Association, Member

Attorneys' Liability Assurance Society, former Director

Connecticut College, Trustee

Episcopal Diocese of Texas, Great Commission Foundation, former President

Episcopal Diocese of Texas, Constitution and Canons Committee, Chair

Episcopal Health Foundation, Board Member

Federal Bar Association, Southern District of Texas Chapter, former President and Board Member

Federal Judicial Evaluation Committee, Member

International Association of Defense Counsel, Member

Leadership Texas (2005)

Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel (2018), Member

Night Court, Board of Directors

St. John's School, former Trustee

St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Endowment Board member and former Vestry Member

Obtained dismissal with prejudice of complex fraud, RICO, and antitrust case for major health care provider, affirmed on appeal by the Fifth Circuit.

Represented pipeline company in multimillion-dollar commercial dispute involving midstream assets.

Obtained dismissal with prejudice of defamation and conspiracy claims against Radio Free Asia in complex federal court case.

Represent software company in federal court case involving breach of contract and trade secrets misappropriation claims.

Represent investment bank in state court securities lawsuit arising from sale of notes secured by deepwater drill ship.

Represented Halliburton Energy Services, Inc. in a jury verdict involving multimillion-dollar patent infringement claim.*

Represented Linn Energy, LLC in the arbitration of an environmental case involving multimillion-dollar breach of contract and fraud claims.*

Represented Sybase Inc. in a jury verdict involving multimillion-dollar commercial fraud claims.*

Won summary judgment for energy partnership sued for tort and contract claims arising from holdings valued at US\$1.5bn,* affirmed on appeal by intermediate court of appeals and Texas Supreme Court.

Represented Reliant Energy, Inc. in lawsuits and jury verdicts involving commercial, trade secrets misappropriation, and ERISA class action claims.*

Represented CenterPoint Energy in multiple jury verdicts involving commercial and personal injury claims.*

Represented Dell Inc. in a patent infringement trial in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware.*

United Way of Greater Houston Law Firm Initiative, former Co-Chair

Women in Law Empowerment Forum, Houston Chapter, Board of Directors

Bar admissions and qualifications

Texas

Court admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit

U.S. District Court, District of Colorado

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas

U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas

U.S. Supreme Court

Represented BASF in lawsuits and jury verdicts involving commercial and employment claims.*

Represented Fair Isaac Corporation in a lawsuit involving commercial fraud claims.*

Represented a leading pharmaceutical manufacturer as co-national counsel for litigation involving a major pharmaceutical product.*

*Matter handled prior to joining Hogan Lovells.

Awards and rankings

- Litigation: General Commercial (Texas), *Chambers USA*, 2021
- Four Hogan Lovells partners named Law360 MVPs for Real Estate, Trials, and Health Care, *Law360*, 2021

Latest thinking and events

- Media Mention
 - Trials Group Of The Year: Hogan Lovells *Law360*
- News
 - A second day in court for ResMan ... followed by a \$152M trade-secrets verdict *The Texas Lawbook / Top Commercial Litigation in 2021*
- Media Mention
 - Law in the Family: The Boyce Family *The Houston Lawyer / Vol. 59 - No. 3*
- Awards and Rankings
 - Four Hogan Lovells partners named Law360 MVPs for Real Estate, Trials, and Health Care
- Published Works
 - Chapter on Expert Witnesses *ALM's 2022 Texas Business Litigation Treatise*
- Press Releases
 - Hogan Lovells 'Proof In Trial' podcast series gives listeners a rare look at how high stakes cases are tried and won