



Timothy L. Fields Shareholder

DIRECT 505.848.1841 FAX 505.848.9710

Email: timothy.fields@modrall.com

OFFICE ALBUQUERQUE MAIN 505.848.1800



Related Practices

Corporate, Business and Finance

Banking and Lending

Energy, Environment and Natural Resources

Environment

Litigation

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Appellate

Class Actions and Mass Torts

Commercial

Insurance

Product Liability

Professional Liability

Torts / Personal Injury

Related Industries

Construction and Design

Energy

Healthcare / Senior Care Facilities

Manufacturing

Railroads

OVERVIEW

Tim Fields is an experienced practitioner in litigation and insurance defense. For more than thirty years, Tim has represented clients in their civil litigation matters including personal injury defense, railroad, transportation/trucking, insurance coverage/bad faith, medical malpractice, construction defects, products liability, toxic exposure and environmental, and FELA. His practice also includes nursing home/hospital/healthcare litigation defense, complex multi-party litigation, commercial, and intellectual property disputes.

Tim serves as lead trial counsel for a number of national companies, and he has successfully tried to verdict numerous jury and bench trials. His undergraduate degree in engineering provides a useful background for litigating lawsuits involving technical or engineering issues including products liability, construction cases, accident reconstruction, and environmental/soil contamination issues.

Benchmark Litigation selected Tim as a Litigation Star in New Mexico and *Southwest Super Lawyers*® has named him one of the Top 25 New Mexico Super Lawyers. Tim has achieved an AV® rating from *Martindale-Hubbell*, the highest rating possible based on peer review. He has been continuously recognized by *Best Lawyers in America*® since 2007 and has been named “Lawyer of the Year in Railroad Law – Albuquerque” in 2021, 2019, 2017 and in 2012 by Best Lawyers.

Tim currently serves as President of Modrall Sperling, Co-Chair of the Railroad/Transportation Industry Service Group, and is a member of the Executive Committee. He has served as the firm’s Vice President, and Chair of the Litigation Department, the Tort/Product Liability/Railroad Practice Group, and the Recruiting Committee.

Education

Georgetown University, J.D., 1986, *cum laude*

United States Coast Guard Academy, B.S. Civil Engineering, 1980, with honors

Bar Admissions

New Mexico

U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit



U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas

EXPERIENCE

- Successful appeal for nursing home, the New Mexico Court of Appeals overturned what had been New Mexico's largest personal injury verdict of \$53.2 Million (\$3.2 in compensatory, and \$50 Million in punitive) in a case involving a woman who died in a nursing home. The Court of Appeals decision was appealed to the Supreme Court and the case settled after the Court granted a writ of certiorari. One of the lead counsel for the Modrall Spierling defense team representing nursing home. *See Keith v. Manorcare, Inc.*, 218 P.3d 1257 (2009).
- Represented trucking company and landfill operator in administrative permitting compliance action before the New Mexico Environment Department and in negotiations of future permitting for hazardous and non-hazardous waste disposal. *See NMED v. Lea Land, Inc., et al.*, No. SWB 08-18 (CO).
- Represented out-of-state corporations in successfully challenging personal jurisdiction. *See Dingle v. Crane Care, Inc., et al.*, No. 1:09-cv-00388; *Fireman's Fund Ins. Co. et al. Thyssen Mining Construction of Canada, Ltd., et al.*, Case No. 10-cv-00401; and *Willis v. Government Employees Insurance Company, et al.*, Case No. 13-cv-00280.
- Represented insurance companies in bad faith and commercial general liability coverage lawsuits. *See Mountain States Mutual Casualty Company v. Southern Colorado Construction et al.*, Case No. 09-cv-314; *Mountain States Indemnity Co. v. Advantage Asphalt & Seal Coating LLC*, CV-2009-02107; *Cincinnati Specialty Underwriters Insurance Company v. Albuquerque Navajo Lodge, et al.*, Case No. 15-cv-00572; and *Carl Kelley Construction, LLC v. Village of Cloudcroft, et al.*, Case No. D-1215-CV-2010, 00926.
- Successful summary judgment for St. Vincent Hospital. *Helene Tapia v. St. Vincent Hospital d/b/a CHRISTUS St. Vincent Regional Medical Center*, Case No. D-101-CV-2013-01492.
- Three consecutive defense verdicts in Santa Fe District Court. *William P. Gladwell v. BNSF Railway Company*, Case No. D-101-CV-2010-02799; *Manual Acosta v. BNSF Railway Company*, Case No. D-101-CV-2011-02741; and *Clifford E. Gladwell v. BNSF Railway Company*, Case No. D-101-CV-2010-03660.
- Three recent summary judgments. *Robert E. Martinez v. BNSF Railway Company*, Case No. D-1314-CV-2013-00658; *Clinton Plant v. BNSF Railway Company*, Case No. D-1314-CV-2014-00457; and *Helen Lopez, Personal Representative of the Estate of Andrew Philip Vigil v. Union Pacific Railroad Company*, Case No. D-101-CV-2015-02691.

ACTIVITIES

Professional Activities

- International Association of Defense Counsel
- American Bar Association, Sections of Litigation and Tort & Insurance
- National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel
- Defense Research Institute
- Albuquerque Bar Association
- New Mexico Defense Association

Public Service



- Lieutenant, U.S. Coast Guard 1980-1985

Firm Leadership

- President and member of Executive Committee
- Past Vice President
- Past Litigation Department Chair
- Past Recruiting Chair
- Past Tort/Product Liability Group Chair
- Past Railroad Group Chair

NEWS & ARTICLES

Alerts

A Message From The Modrall Spierling Law Firm Regarding Diversity and Inclusion

Posted on June 19, 2020 By Timothy L. Fields

News

39 Modrall Spierling Attorneys Recognized in Best Lawyers

Posted on December 1, 2020 By Daniel Schueler

Benchmark Litigation Highly Recommends Modrall Spierling

Posted on November 21, 2019 By Daniel Schueler

30 Modrall Spierling Shareholders Listed in Best Lawyers®, Nine Named “Lawyer of the Year”

Posted on August 15, 2019 By Daniel Schueler

Articles

Modrall Spierling Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers® 2019

August 15, 2018

By Daniel Schueler

CGL Policy Covers Loss of Computer Data

November 7, 2002

By Timothy L. Fields

DISCOURSE

Presentations

- Numerous presentations to client groups on multiple litigation topics.

HONORS

- *Benchmark Litigation, The Definitive Guide to America's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys* recognized as a Litigation Star, 2012-present
- *Martindale-Hubbell AV®* Preeminent Peer Review Rated
- *Southwest Super Lawyers®* (derived from a lawyer survey), 2013-present; Top 25 Super Lawyers in New Mexico, 2014, 2015, 2016
- *Best Lawyers in America®* in Insurance Law, Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, Product



Liability Litigation – Defendants, and Railroad Law, 2007-present

- *Best Lawyers*® Railroad Law “Lawyer of the Year” in Albuquerque, 2012, 2017, 2019, 2021