

COULD YOU USE SOME HELP?

THE TOP 10 REASONS TO SEEK THE HELP AND GUIDANCE OF AN APPELLATE ADVOCATE



1910 Historic Harris County Courthouse
- Home to the 1st and 14th Courts of Appeal

IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING HIRING AN APPELLATE ATTORNEY, CONSIDER PDH

PDH's Appellate Section is led by Shareholder Michael A. Harris. Michael is a graduate of Texas A&M and the University of Alabama School of Law where he was member of the school's Law Review. He is licensed to handle cases before Federal and State Courts in Texas, and is a member of the Bar of the United States Supreme Court. He is also a member of the prestigious Texas Bar Foundation, as well as a member of the Appellate Practice Sections of the Texas Bar Association and Houston Bar Association.

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10 Reasons to Enlist an Appellate Advocate

Sometimes it is hard to ask for help and sometimes you might not even know you need help until it is too late. Attorneys and clients faced with critical moments in a trial, or attempting to reverse or uphold a trial court judgment may be in that situation and could greatly benefit from calling in an appellate advocate to assist.

10... It's a Different World – The appeals process, the rules, and procedures are different on appeal than they are at the trial level, thus the skill set needed is different than a typical trial attorney may have.

9... Issues make the Case – In trying to reverse an unfavorable judgment, spotting the issues to be presented on appeal is a crucial skill that will give you the highest chance of getting the best result

8... Get a Fresh Perspective – Even a skilled trial attorney who has been living a case for years can be too close to a case. The appeals court will be viewing your issues for the first time, so enlisting an appellate advocate to help in that process will give you the fresh perspective that you will need in order to put the best face on your case.

7... This May Be Your Last Chance – The Supreme Court of Texas and the US Supreme Court do not have to take your case, so do everything possible to win on the Courts of Appeal level.

6... Know the Rules – You need someone experienced with the rules and procedures unique to an appeal.

5... Get a Second Opinion – Talk to an appellate advocate to determine if an appeal is right for you.

4... Writing Matters!

3... Writing Matters!

2... Writing Matters!

1... Writing Matters! – Most appeals are decided on the briefs. Being an effective writer is one of the most important skills to look for in an attorney handling your appeal. Ask to see writing samples!

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