

Managing the Storm

Managing the Storm

Our team has experienced legal professionals to help you evaluate, mitigate and resolve claims in an effective and efficient manner.

Early evaluation of risk is accomplished by our systematic approach to every case we handle. The Murphy Legal system ensures early analysis of all cases with the goal of being “trial ready” in approximately eight months.

For catastrophic loss cases, our rapid response team is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Early evaluation is like accurately forecasting a coming storm - so it can be managed effectively.

Mitigation must be well planned and proactive. Instead of running from the storm, we at Murphy Legal view ourselves more as storm chasers - seeking to engage in dispassionate analysis of an ominous threat and reduce it to a risk management decision.

Mitigation of risk requires formulating a clear and concise strategic plan early in the claims process. The old military adage of “two is one and one is none” is just as true in litigation – it takes a team. Collaboration in formulating a strategic plan is a team sport, and that plan is essential to accomplishing our client’s desired outcome.

At Murphy Legal we host collaborative, online, strategic planning sessions on every case, and follow up with periodic “clarity checks” or “course correction” sessions to ensure we are on task and exceeding the client’s expectations.

Resolution of a claim ultimately rests with the parties involved in the dispute. At Murphy Legal we adhere to the mantra that “the more you sweat in peacetime, the less you bleed in war.” We prepare every case as if trial is inevitable.

Ironically, this approach almost invariably leads to cases being resolved well before trial. But when trial is necessary, our trial team always heads to the courthouse fully prepared and armed with the consent of a fully informed client.

The combination of our experience and our systematic and methodical approach to the litigation process enables us to find calm in the eye of the storm. Our firm has routinely found successes in court rooms throughout the state of Texas and beyond.

OneFeeSolution™ and OneFeeGuarantee™

One Fee. Established monthly fee.

No Charge for Firm Expenses. Unlike other law firms, we assume the cost of all in-house expenses, such as travel, meals, postage, copies, and legal research. You pay only for third-party vendors, such as outside experts, court reporters, and records.

Twelve Months or Less. If the case is resolved within 12 months, you will be charged only through the month of resolution. If your case is not resolved within 12 months, we will continue to defend the claim at no additional charge for attorney time or firm expenses.

Guaranteed Accuracy. Each One Fee Solution™ case is backed by our One Fee Guarantee™. If the case goes to trial and the jury’s verdict is greater than the maximum exposure announced in our pre-trial risk analysis, Murphy Legal will refund all attorney fees paid on the case.

Note: One Fee Solution™ applies only to trucking casualty claims and associated litigation.

Se Habla Español



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Areas of Practice

Murphy Legal defends individuals, institutional clients, and insurers from claims involving:

- Wrongful death
- Personal injury
- Premises liability
- Product liability
- Business disputes
- Construction Defects
- Farm Policy Claims
- Homeowner Insurance Claims
- UM/UIM Claims
- Cargo Claims
- Professional Liability

Murphy Legal represent drivers, independent contractors, fleet owners, officers, employees, partners, and professionals in cases involving some of the largest motor carriers, manufacturers, contractors, builders, developers, and service providers in the world. Cases range from minor impact, soft tissue claims and claims involving surgical recommendation and/or intervention, to multimillion-dollar contract disputes and catastrophic loss claims involving international business transactions, brain injury, paralysis, burns, sexual assault, and death.

Casualty Defense

Our experienced team assists in the investigation of motor vehicle accidents, premises and workplace injuries, and weather-related casualty losses by gathering facts, evaluating risk, and developing a strategy for the best possible defense. Plus, when clients engage our 24-hour emergency response hotline, we immediately initiate our comprehensive Catastrophic Loss protocol to secure the accident scene and preserve evidence.

Product Liability

Modern life exists within the context of ever-changing technology that can enhance safety and efficiency, and that provide useful recordkeeping and instantaneous data. Unfortunately, technological failures increasingly serve as the basis for product liability claims. With the ever-increasing presence of electronic technologies in industry, product liability claims are an inherent part of a comprehensive case defense strategy.

Cargo Claims

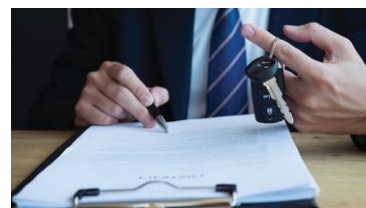


Cargo claims are an inevitable aspect of shipping goods across the country. Whether it be truckload carrier claims, damaged household good claims, salvaged perishable goods, financial damages, or nonpayment, our team is experienced in defending and resolving cargo claims.

Premises Liability

Every entity or person who owns or occupies property, such as a transportation hub, manufacturing facility, storefront, or office has exposure to premises liability claims. Serious accidents may be the result of failure to adhere to safety requirements, environmental regulations, OSHA compliance, or even third-party negligence. Whatever the circumstances, Murphy Legal is well versed on the laws related to premises liability, nuisance claims, water code violations, and other environmental regulation.

Regulatory Compliance Legal Services



As regulations change, our lawyers keep you informed and in control of regulatory changes that affect your industry, your clients, and your bottom line. From permit management, IFTA fuel taxes, vehicle titling, ELD, maintenance records, or a variety of other paperwork, our team helps you to maintain compliance and avoid hefty fines.

24 Hour Response



EMERGENCY HOTLINE

979-575-4277

Managing the Storm

Meet Our Team



Paul W. Murphy
Attorney

paul@murphylegal.com

Paul Murphy focuses on transportation defense. He specializes in personal injury trial law and is certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. His area of expertise includes litigation involving individual injury resulting from automobile or trucking accidents, professional malpractice, defective products, premise liability, and negligence.

After graduating high school, Mr. Murphy enlisted in the United States Air Force. He was selected to serve under the Honorable William Jefferson Clinton as a member of the Presidential Honor Guard in Washington, D.C. While in the military, Mr. Murphy earned his bachelor's degree. After receiving an Honorable Discharge, he attended South Texas College of Law where he obtained his Juris Doctorate.

Since the beginning of his career as a litigator, Mr. Murphy has obtained numerous verdicts on behalf of individuals and corporations in the State of Texas. He represents a wide variety of clients with claims involving death, catastrophic injuries, personal injuries, and business disputes.

Mr. Murphy frequently serves as lead counsel in high-exposure litigation, and his goal is to ensure that all defense options available to a client are explored and implemented. He believes that the key to successful resolution of a case, whether by settlement or trial, is an early evaluation of strengths and weaknesses coupled with a clear strategy to utilize and manage those strengths and weaknesses.

Areas of Practice

Product liability
Transportation
Insurance defense
Medical malpractice
Commercial law
General civil litigation

Memberships

Transportation Lawyers Association
Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA)
DRI – The Voice of the Defense Bar
Texas Trucking Association
American Bar Association
American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)
Arkansas Trucking Association

Education

J.D., South Texas College of Law, 2000
B.A., McMurry University, 1997

Admissions

Texas, 2000
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, 2000

Military

U.S. Air Force 7th Security Police Squadron, 1995-1997
United States Presidential Honor Guard, 1993-1995

Legal Specialization

Texas Board of Legal Specialization, Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Law

Other Certifications

Licensed pilot

Managing the Storm



Eduardo Prado
Attorney

eddie@murphylegal.com

Eddie Prado has extensive experience defending major transportation companies in courtrooms throughout Texas. With his collegial litigation style and uncommon tenacity, Mr. Prado has been instrumental in securing favorable settlements, rulings, and verdicts for his clients. He joined Murphy Legal in 2015 as a member of the firm's trial team.

Mr. Prado enlisted in the U.S. Army after graduating from college. He was selected to serve as an airborne infantry soldier and was ultimately awarded the Purple Heart after being critically wounded in Fallujah, Iraq in 2003. He then returned to school and obtained both his M.B.A. and, later, his J.D.

Areas of Practice

Transportation
Insurance defense
Commercial law
General civil litigation
Construction law
Product liability
International Law

Memberships

Transportation Lawyers Association
DRI – The Voice of the Defense Bar
Texas Trucking Association
American Bar Association

Education

J.D., with honors, South Texas College of Law, 2015
M.B.A., Sam Houston State University, 2008
B.B.A., Finance, Texas A&M University, Mays Business School, 2002

Admissions

Texas, 2015

Military

Rifleman C-CO 1-504 Parachute Infantry Regiment
82nd Airborne Division United States Army
Purple Heart Recipient

Managing the Storm



Arienne Buchanan
Attorney

arianne@murphylegal.com

Ari Buchanan is experienced as an insurance defense litigator, compliance officer and contract attorney for law firms and private institutions in Florida, South Carolina, and Texas.

Ms. Buchanan joined Murphy Legal as a research and contract attorney in 2017. Her client representation over the course of her career includes high exposure insurance defense matters, family law, banking compliance, real estate, and contracts. She has taught legal research and writing as a professor at Charleston Law School.

During her time in law school, Ms. Buchanan served on the Moot Court Board, Arbitration Board, and Trial Team. She also held judicial and corporate internships throughout Florida. Upon graduating, she obtained licenses to practice law in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. She then returned to Stetson University to obtain a Master's in Business Administration.

Ms. Buchanan's background makes her a well-rounded attorney in the areas of litigation, contracts, compliance, and research. She recognizes the importance of zealous representation of clients and the value of strong, effective communication.

Areas of Practice

Transportation
Insurance defense
Commercial law
General civil litigation
Construction law
Product liability

Memberships

Transportation Lawyers Association
DRI – The Voice of the Defense Bar
Texas Trucking Association
American Bar Association

Education

M.B.A., Stetson University, 2017
J.D., Stetson University College of Law, 2009
B.A., University of Central Florida, 2006

Admissions

Florida, 2009
Georgia, 2013
South Carolina, 2014

Managing the Storm



Kristie Giesenschlag

Lead Paralegal

kristie@murphylegal.com

Kristie Giesenschlag has been a member of the Murphy Legal team since 2006. Kristie began working as a litigation paralegal in 2004, focusing primarily on insurance defense, transportation defense, and personal injury. She is an integral part of the Murphy Legal Paralegal Team and has been instrumental in developing the Murphy Legal System and workflow process. She strives to lead her team of paralegals in efficiency, assisting our attorneys in client representation.

When she is not keeping the Murphy Legal System flowing, Kristie loves spending time with her husband and two boys, fishing and doing other “boy mom” activities.

Memberships/Affiliations

Notary Public, State of Texas
Brazos County Paralegal Association

Education

Blinn College, Associates in Applied Science, Legal Assistant (Paralegal), 2006
Blinn College, Law Office Specialist Certification, 2006

Favorite Saying

Stay positive, work hard, and make it happen



Yesenia Mora

Paralegal

yesi@murphylegal.com

Yesenia Mora joined the Murphy Legal team in August 2017. After graduating high school in Levelland, Texas, she worked as a chiropractor assistant and then as a Legal Assistant in a Personal Injury law firm. That’s where she found her calling. Yesi loves the law! The process of it, the intricacies of it, everything about it. Upon moving to College Station with her husband, she found Murphy Legal and has become an integral part of the paralegal team.

Yesi loves life outside of work, enjoying time spent with her family, being a mom, working out, traveling, riding four wheelers and reading her Bible. She continually strives to grow spiritually and learn to be the best that she can be in all areas of her life.

Memberships

Notary Public, State of Texas

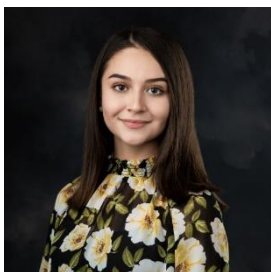
Education

Levelland High School, 2013
South Plains College
Certificate in Litigation Boot Camp

Favorite Saying

Faith can move mountains, Matthew 17:20

Managing the Storm



Alex Montellano
Paralegal

alex@murphylegal.com

Alex Montellano joined the Murphy Legal team in July of 2019 immediately after graduating from the University of Texas at Austin. Hook 'em! Since working with the firm, Alex has fully realized the beauty of the law profession and has set her sights on becoming an attorney. She continually strives to gain experience and knowledge from the attorneys and paralegal she works beside. In a short amount of time, Alex has become a member of the Murphy Legal family.

In her free time, she enjoys reading a good book, trying unique makeup looks, studying for the LSAT, and loving on her two sweet cats, Bobby and Nora.

Education

University of Texas at Austin, B.A. in Government with Honors, with a Minor in Business, 2019

Favorite Saying

Nevertheless, she persisted



Ashley Wesp
Client Coordinator
Admin Assistant

ashley@murphylegal.com

Ashley Wesp joined the Murphy Legal team in September of 2016. Knowing nothing about the law other than watching movies and TV, she brings years of organization management skills, emergency management, and ability to multi-task into the office. With a degree in Animal Science and 17 years of animal welfare and non-profit humane society operations, in addition to having owned her own small business, Ashley is a "Jack of all trades, master of many", which is a useful talent in helping manage attorneys, paralegals, and clients.

When she isn't managing things at the law office, Ashley enjoys spending time at the barn with her horse, traveling the country with her girlfriends, learning about wine, long distance bicycling, and hanging out with her family.

Memberships

Notary Public, State of Texas

Education

Texas A&M University, B.S. Animal Science, 1994

John's Hopkins University, Certificate in Non-Profit Business Management, 2001

Certified Specialist of Wine, 2013

Favorite Saying

My treasures do not chink or glitter,
They gleam in the sun and neigh in the night - Anonymous



Managing the Storm

Results Driven

To ensure that our focus is always aligned with our clients' goals, we have developed a unique compensation system for attorneys. Unlike most defense firms, who compensate attorneys based on billable hours, our team members are compensated according to our clients' most important criteria, such as duration of the file, accuracy of case evaluation, and timeliness of reporting.

Team members are evaluated quarterly based on these and other key performance indicators. By aligning the interests of our attorneys and clients, Murphy Legal can provide the highest standard of quality, performance, and client trust in the legal- defense industry.

Billing Systems

We currently use Smokeball for traditional billing and reporting. The firm complies with all requirements as defined in client litigation guidelines, including the submission of invoices in LEDES format and through external billing systems such as DXC.

Language & Diversity

At Murphy Legal, our bilingual team of paralegals and attorneys service the needs of our clients and cases in both English and Spanish.

Murphy Legal is a small but highly diverse team of experienced attorneys and legal professionals. We believe that diversity extends beyond race and gender to include religious belief, age, culture, sexual orientation, and other considerations. Discrimination or harassment on any of these grounds is expressly prohibited at Murphy Legal, in any work-related activity, or in any of the firm's employment or recruitment practices.

Cyber Security Policy

Murphy Legal maintains a written cyber security policy that applies to employees, vendors and partners. The policy addresses data confidentiality, email and device security, antivirus protection, password management, data transfer, data retention, and backup procedures. Disciplinary actions, including termination, are taken in the event of a security breach. A copy of the full cyber security policy is available on request.

Ethics and Professional Liability

Neither the firm, nor any of its attorneys, has been subject to any disciplinary action by a court of law or state bar association.

We maintain a professional liability policy through Berkshire Hathaway Guard Insurance Companies. Details are available on request.

References

References are available upon request.

Firm Contact Information

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