



Patrick W. Drouilhet

Of Counsel

patrick.drouilhet@wilsonelser.com

Houston, TX – 713.344.2987

Pat Drouilhet has more than 30 years of experience representing clients in civil, personal injury and commercial litigation disputes. His practice is concentrated on transportation litigation including personal injury and wrongful death lawsuits involving commercial drivers. Pat has handled railroad/FELA claims, toxic tort, maritime personal injury and commercial matters, and contract disputes. While many matters are resolved through pretrial negotiation or alternative dispute resolution, Pat has tried numerous cases to verdict or judgment in state and federal court.

As in house counsel and later in private practice, Pat gained significant experience negotiating and drafting a wide variety of commercial transactions involving upstream, midstream and downstream energy services, including master service agreements, procurement, engineering and construction, equipment and rail car lease, transportation and storage, freight agreements, contracts of affreightment and charter, and other transactions.

Representative Matters

Obtained \$250,000 judgment and awarded attorney's fees after bench trial in United States District Court, Southern District of Texas for equipment manufacturer of 500-ton top drive drilling system in breach of contract claim.

Obtained judgment after bench trial in United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana for insurance company rejecting bad faith claims involving insurance of marine charter.

Obtained significant judgment after bench trial in United States District Court, Southern District of Texas for client charterer enforcing arbitration provisions of contract of affreightment against a Non-Vessel Operating Common Carrier (NVOCC).

Services

- Transportation
- Complex Tort & General Casualty
- Commercial Litigation

Tried to jury defense verdict rear-end motor vehicle collision claim with excess of \$500,000 in pecuniary damages in evidence.

Tried to jury defense verdict slip-and-fall claim against Houston downtown building owner in state district court.

Represented pipeline and gasoline refinery in fatal pipeline and refinery explosion case.

Represented drilling company in lease termination dispute also involving environmental cleanup costs, including Phase I, Phase II and RECAP assessments.

Represented Class 1 railroad, handling numerous complex tort claims, including fatalities, arising from train collision and derailment involving release of more than 60 tons of chlorine; resolving all claims including significant wrongful death and exposure claims.

Represented well-known national brand in complex commercial jury trial of patent, copyright and Lanham Act claims in U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas, Beaumont Division; resolving all claims during trial.

As in-house counsel to major pipeline company, negotiated, drafted and provided legal support to implement target price agreement with contractor for \$20 million pipeline construction project in mid-western U.S. city, which was client's first implementation of target price contract in a significant project.

As in-house counsel to major oil company, negotiated crude oil tank car lease agreements in excess of \$50 million with additional support to trade group (crude oil) including drafting complex terminal, storage and transport agreements.

As in-house operations counsel to major petrochemical company, negotiated and drafted in excess of \$500 million aggregate contract values including railcar lease agreements, ocean barge lease agreements, contracts of affreightment with major marine carriers for global trade lane service, new freight agreements with the five Class I railroads, industry track and plant construction agreements, industrial barge and charter transactions, technical services agreements, NDA and other transactions supporting the supply chain.

As in-house counsel to major pipeline company, negotiated and drafted facility engineering and construction agreement, with emphasis on a liquid separation and stabilization agreement (LSSA) that involved the engineering, design, construction and provision of LSS services to major offshore oil company shippers.

As in-house operations counsel to major petrochemical client supported exports group including direct negotiation and resolution of country of origin dispute with foreign jurisdiction national customs authority under international trade agreement procedure.

Education

- Loyola University New Orleans College of Law (J.D., 1992)
- University of Texas at Austin (B.A. in Economics, 1988)

Bar Admissions

- Texas

Court Admissions

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

Professional Affiliations

Texas Bar Association
Houston Bar Association