



Sashe Dimitroff

Partner

sashe.dimitroff@haynesboone.com

Houston
1 Houston Center
1221 McKinney, Suite 2100
Houston, Texas 77010

T +1 713.547.2053
F +1 713.236.5580

Areas of Practice

- Litigation/Trial Practice
- Intellectual Property Litigation
- Energy Litigation

Education

- J.D., University of Houston School of Law, 1992, *magna cum laude*
- M.B.A., University of Houston, 1992, *with full honors*
- B.B.A., University of Texas at Austin, 1985

Bar Admissions

- Texas, 1992

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court

Sashe Dimitroff is a partner in the Litigation Practice Group in the Houston office. His practice focuses on complex commercial litigation and intellectual property. He has significant experience in technology disputes, breach of contract & commercial fraud matters, international dispute resolution, oil & gas litigation, environmental disputes, and mass toxic tort. He has also developed “preventative law” strategies for various corporations to avoid future claims and in preparing them to defend various claims should they arise.

Sashe is a member of Texas Bar, the American and the International Bar Associations, and the American Society of International Law. He clerked for the Hon. Howell Cobb of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas in 1992-93. While at the University of Houston Law School, Sashe served as Executive Editor for the *University of Houston Law Review*. He is also an appointed member of the State Bar of Texas Standing Committee on Court Rules that is responsible for revisions of the Rules of Practice in civil actions and the related statutes of Texas.

Selected Client Representations:

Breach Of Contract & Commercial Fraud Matters

- Defending a large oil and gas equipment manufacturing company from claims of fraud, breach of contract, breach of warranty, and negligence regarding the failure of a deep-water drilling riser while the Plaintiffs were conducting drilling operations in the South China Sea.
- Representing an investor in an oilfield in arbitration against the operator for breach of contract fraud and gross negligence.
- Defending a major national engineering company against claims for fraud in developing a process design that allegedly led to a refinery explosion.

- Representing client who sold electricity that is generated from methane gas produced from decaying waste in landfills. Prosecuted suit against the manufacturer of the engines that burned the methane gas to create electricity.
- Defending a software development company against claims of deceptive trade practices and fraud.

International Litigation And Arbitration

- Defending the respondent in four separate trials before the International Trade Commission in Washington DC against claims for patent infringement in the design, manufacturing, and sale of semiconductors used in cell phones and data cards.
- Representing an international oil and gas exploration company in prosecuting a breach of contract action against the government of the Ivory Coast, Africa in an arbitration before the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris, France.
- Defending investors in a Western Kazakhstan oil and gas field against claims in state court action that exceed \$500 million.

Oil & Gas And Energy Disputes

- Defending a major oil company as co-counsel in a three-month toxic tort jury trial in Beaumont, Texas against claims for personal injury and property damages arising from a pipeline rupture and subsequent fire. The National Law Journal voted the complete defense verdict as one of the top ten defense wins in the country in 1997.
- Representing a major oil company in defending lease and royalty disputes throughout Texas.
- Defending major pipeline company in class action arising from an oil spill in Louisiana. Defeated class certification and settled remaining claims on favorable terms. Prosecuted contractual indemnity and negligence claims in federal court against marine contractor causing pipeline rupture.
- Upholding a summary judgment for a major oil company in the Sixth Circuit regarding claims for underpayment of oil and gas royalties.

- Representing a gas processing plant accused of failing to comply with air permitting and emission standards. Plaintiffs claimed excessive noise and various personal injuries due to chemicals emitted from the plant.

Environmental Disputes

- Representing multiple chemical manufacturing clients in a suit brought by former employees, family members of employees, contractors, and land owners adjacent to the chemical plant in Harrison County, Texas. The plaintiffs claimed our clients sold a variety of chemicals that were released into the ground and the atmosphere causing them personal injury and property damage.
- Representing a chemical manufacturer as Texas counsel in numerous cases, including:
 - Defending a state-court suit alleging cancer from exposure to vinyl chloride found in certain household products manufactured by our client. Won summary judgment.
 - Defending a federal court suit in Beaumont, Texas brought by an employee of a paper mill in Valliant, Oklahoma. Plaintiff alleged paralysis and other damage to his nervous system resulting from multiple chemical exposures. Plaintiff non-suited our client after we won summary judgment on most of our client-specific issues.
 - Defending a state-court suit alleging bladder cancer from exposure to an arsenic-based herbicide. Case settled on favorable terms.
- Representing a client who sold allegedly contaminated real property to the plaintiffs. Won summary judgment.
- Defending a major oil company against \$250 million in claims for alleged environmental contamination arising from the operation of oil and gas leases over a sixty-year period. Case settled on favorable terms.
- Defending chemical plant in wrongful death case based on purported exposure to benzene in plant emissions. Won jury verdict.

Publications and Speeches:

Sashe has given seminars to clients and other lawyers on a range of litigation-related topics in the United States and abroad. He has also authored numerous articles on civil trial and energy law issues, including:

Articles

- Dimitroff, *International Trade Commission Makes Foreign Competitors Play Fair*, Houston Business Journal (Sept. 7, 2007);
- Bishop, Dimitroff & Miles, *Strategic Options Available When Catastrophe Strikes the International Energy Project*, Texas International Law Journal, No. 635 (Summer 2001);
- Dimitroff, *Psychology of Persuasion*, University of Houston Advanced Evidence Course (2001-2002);
- Dimitroff, Perrin & Workman, *Recovery of Damages in Texas*, State Bar of Texas Advanced Expert Witness Course II (Feb. 2002);
- Bishop & Dimitroff, *International Litigation in Texas: Obtaining Evidence Abroad and Proving the Laws of Foreign Countries*, University of Houston Advanced Evidence and Discovery Course (2001);
- Kruse & Dimitroff, *Avoiding "Megalosses" in Drafting the Provisions of Electric Power Trading Contracts*, 16 Corp. Counsel Rev. 153 (Nov. 1997);
- Bishop, Dimitroff & Mohr, *Non-Competes, Confidentiality Agreements, and Trade Secrets*, Texas Bar's Advanced Civil Trial Course (2001);
- Ross & Dimitroff, *Whose Field of Dreams: Antitrust Relief Against Restrictions on the Sale or Relocation of Major League Baseball Teams*, 42 Antitrust Bulletin 521 (Fall 1997);
- Dimitroff, Koch & Mayer, *Insurance Coverage for Year 2000-Related Losses and Liabilities*, University of Houston Insurance Law Seminar (June 1999).
- Horten & Dimitroff, *Year 2000 Litigation in the United States of America*, The Computer Law Handbook (Bech ed. 1999);
- Dimitroff, *Year 2000 Litigation Update*, University of Houston Seminar on Advanced Civil Litigation After the New Discovery Rules (Apr. 1999);

In The News

- *National Law Journal*: Sashe's victory in obtaining a \$1.4 million attorney's fee judgment (one of the highest fee awards ever awarded in a civil rights case) was featured in a front page story in the *National Law Journal* titled "Voting Rights Suits Heating Up" (Sept. 22, 2008).
- *Texas Monthly*: Sashe was voted as a "Texas Super Lawyer" in business litigation in the April 2008 Corporate Counsel Edition of *Texas Monthly* as well as the November 2007 issue of *Texas Monthly*. He was also voted as a Rising Star in the July 2004 issue of *Texas Monthly*.
- *Houston Business Journal*: Sashe was featured in an article titled "Business Travelers Find Money Talks, But in Different Languages," (June 4, 2007).
- *Houston Chronicle*: Sashe's community service work was the subject of an article titled "Big Brother Now Serves As a Mentor / Sashe Dimitroff Says the Lessons He Learned Early Helped to Forge His Character" (June 21, 2007).

Community Service:

- Board of Directors for the University of Houston Law Review Alumni Association (past positions include President (2003 – 2004); Vice President (2002 – 2003); Secretary (2001 – 2000).
- Board of Directors for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Houston (past positions include head of Legal Affairs Committee; head of Capital Fund Committee, co-chair of BBBS Gala).

Memberships

- American Bar Association
- American Society of International Law
- International Bar Association
- State Bar of Texas Standing Committee on Court Rules
- Texas Bar Association