# GRAVES GARRETT NEWS

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Summer AssociatesGain Legal Experience

> Firm Spotlight – Chandler Carr	1
> Martin on Ingram's "40 Under Forty"	1
> Successful Commercial Arbitration Defense	2
> Firm Adds Humphrey, Lewis, Tyler	3

A PUBLICATION OF GRAVES GARRETT LLC | FALL 2022

www.gravesgarrett.com



## Unique path leads Chandler Carr to Graves Garrett

When Chandler Carr was contemplating a future as a minister or theology teacher, he was constantly reminded of previous conversations he had with family members about pursuing the legal industry. Becoming an attorney may make sense for him after all.

"The ills that we attend to are social ills. We're like social doctors, and I think there's something to that," Chandler said. "As lawyers, you think about, not necessarily that you're fixing society as a whole, but you're always thinking about implications and how it interacts with the lives of people."

Studying philosophy as an undergraduate student, Chandler said it was, quite simply, the easiest way to get family and friends off his back.

"My grandma would ask, 'What on earth can you do with (a philosophy degree)?'" he said. "The one answer I could give was law. People will buy that; they'll accept it."

Continued on page 2 ▶

#### DANE MARTIN EARNS DISTINCTION IN INGRAM'S "40 UNDER FORTY" 2022 CLASS

Graves Garrett partner Dane Martin recently earned recognition in Ingram's Magazine's annual "40 Under Forty" list.

In the publication's 24th annual class, Martin was recognized as an individual in the Kansas City metro area under 40 who has demonstrated commitment to leadership in his career and community. Ingram's selects the "40 Under Forty" list from nominations made throughout the metro area. Candidates are judged based on ethics, integrity, commitment to entrepreneurial thinking, record of achievement in business, leadership skills, professional affiliation, and community service.

Martin joined Graves Garrett in 2014 and became a partner in 2020. He continues to receive

Continued on page 4 ▶



#### UNIQUE PATH LEADS CHANDLER CARR TO GRAVES GARRETT

#### ► Continued from page 1

After earning that philosophy degree from Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Chandler dipped his toes into the legal industry by working an administrative role at a law firm in Manhattan, Kansas.

"At the very least, it got me thinking about it seriously as a career possibility," he said of the experience. "Some of what got me interested in law, I suppose, is that it's a natural fit for people who are more verbal and are interested in the written word and analysis."

Despite the positive experience, Chandler went ahead and chose to pursue his long-standing passion of theology. He studied in the Master of Divinity program at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina. From there, Chandler continued to explore the thought of becoming a minister or teaching theology.

"I wanted to do something more practical," he said, "so I thought going into law was best for me and my family."

So, off to law school he went, opting to attend the prestigious Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law. Following graduation in 2015, Chandler gained valuable business litigation experience at an Am Law 200 firm and a Kansas City-

area boutique firm. In those roles, he spent time in courts nationwide, representing corporate and individual policyholders in a wide range of industries and involving bad faith claims, ERISA matters, and employee benefit disputes.

Chandler also gained valuable experience in advising public and private hospitals, physician groups, home health organizations, and other health care entities on corporate, transactional, and regulatory issues.

Chandler, who officially landed at Graves Garrett in May 2021, focuses his practice on general business and commercial litigation, representing plaintiffs and defendants at the trial and appellate levels in matters ranging from contract disputes to class actions.

Speaking of his experience at Graves Garrett, Chandler said he enjoys the challenge of solving problems for his clients.

"It's hard work and it requires you to exercise your brain. It's satisfying to figure things out," he said. "And it's also satisfying to help clients through some tricky situations. Organizations come to you with issues that are complicated and are important to them, so you need to take them seriously. I enjoy that."

"There are more opportunities here to get involved and dive in," Chandler added. "I like being thrown into the fire and trying to prove your mettle, as they say. I like pressure and trying to perform under those situations. A boutique firm with a great litigation practice was exactly what I was looking for."

"I was personally drawn to being a pro-First Amendment orientation here," he said. "With my background, I appreciated that side of things."

Chandler said he thoroughly enjoys spending time with his wife, Alicia, 5-year-old Lydia, and newborn Philippa, "Pippa."

"For me, it's not a challenge to want to have that time with them and make that a priority," Chandler said. "We spend a lot of time together and do a lot of fun things together."

Those things consist of spending time cooking unique recipes – such as Thai food, jambalaya, Swedish pancakes and more – cheering on the Chiefs, salivating over ice cream, and enjoying the city as a whole.

Personally, Chandler keeps his mind sharp by reading books on theology teachings and playing his favorite game, Go – an abstract strategy board game – with friends at the Greater Kansas City Go Club. ■

#### **GRAVES GARRETT CLIENT PREVAILS IN COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION**

Graves Garrett attorneys Nathan Garrett and Joe McGroder recently achieved a significant outcome with the successful defense of a key firm client in an arbitration trial, protecting the firm's client from significant financial liability and recovering unpaid construction fees in its counterclaim.

"Our successes for valued clients remain rooted in the work of our firm's talented attorneys," Garrett said. "Our practice is unique in the region, tackling national, big firm matters from a smaller, nimbler, and more focused boutique. We take great pride in our clients and hard-earned outcomes. The details of this matter embody that pride and further advance our thriving commercial litigation practice."

The plaintiffs in the case alleged harm resulting from the loss of federal funding for a development project, arguing that the firm's client improperly failed to disclose an ongoing (unrelated) federal investigation involving its business. In accepting the argument posited by Graves Garrett and ruling in favor of the firm's client, the arbiter

found that the company had satisfied its contractual obligations to provide timely and quality construction services and that the contract did



Nathan Garrett



Joe McGroder

not require disclosure of the investigation. The arbiter not only denied all of plaintiffs' claims but found in favor of the firm's client on its counterclaim for unpaid invoices.

"We believe the arbiter made a well-reasoned decision, and while regrettable for the client to have experienced the turmoil and expense associated with litigation, are pleased with the outcome," Garrett said.

#### GRAVES GARRETT BRINGS ON ATTORNEYS HUMPHREY, LEWIS AND TYLER

Graves Garrett is pleased to announce the addition of attorneys Jim Humphrey, George Lewis, and Jackson Tyler, who significantly bolster the firm's bench across a wide range of focal practice areas while confirming a commitment to handling complex litigation, investigative, and regulatory matters for clients located across the country.

"Graves Garrett's continued success starts with our people," Graves Garrett partner Nathan Garrett said. "Each of these three attorneys brings a valuable skill set that strengthens our ability to provide informed and efficient counsel to a growing client base. Jim brings a demonstrated track record of success in litigation, while George and Jackson have outstanding credentials from government roles and clerkships, which have always been important to our firm in identifying attorneys who understand and embrace the unique, high-stakes legal work we do here."



Jim Humphrey

#### JIM HUMPHREY

Humphrey brings more than 20 years of substantial legal experience to a multifaceted and wide-ranging private practice. He focuses on all aspects of commercial and business, classaction and multiparty, and securities litigation, while also providing notable depth to the firm's high-profile work in white collar criminal defense, government

investigations, compliance and regulatory enforcement, and professional liability and malpractice claims.

In addition to being an accomplished trial attorney with experience at an Am Law 100 law firm, Humphrey also spent time as a lawyer with the United States Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), adding to his unique and valuable perspective in handling complex litigation.

Prior to entering private practice, Humphrey served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Gary A. Fenner in the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri. In 2015, he joined the CFTC's Division of Enforcement and served five years as a Senior Trial Attorney while handling investigations and litigation across the nation.

Humphrey also holds the title of Government Relations Liaison for the Kansas and Western District of Missouri Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and serves as a mentor for the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association's Ross T. Roberts Trial Academy. He is also a past president of the Lawyers Association of Kansas City. Humphrey completed his undergraduate studies at Metropolitan State University in Denver, later earned his law degree from Creighton University School of Law, and is a 2014 graduate of the FBI's Citizens Academy.

#### **GEORGE LEWIS**

Lewis brings an extensive legal background to his representation of clients in high-stakes investigations, white collar prosecutions, complex civil litigation, and impactful free speech matters. His significant federal government experience informs his unique approach to handling all aspects of litigation and civil and criminal investigations.



George Lewis

Most recently, Lewis served as associate counsel to the president of the United States, gaining legal experience reviewing bills submitted to Congress, drafting and reviewing executive orders, presidential memoranda, and emergency declarations, and generally overseeing the full range of presidential activities for legal issues.

In addition, Lewis served as primary White House counsel liaison for the Department of Transportation, White House Information Technology, and U.S. Agency for Global Media. He also worked closely with representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Defense, and the Department of Justice Office of Legal Counsel.

Lewis previously served in the United States Navy, spending time in the Naval Special Warfare and Intelligence communities. After commissioning and graduating from the Basic Lawyer Course at the Naval Justice School, he served in the Judge Advocate General's Corps for five years. He specialized in criminal litigation and gained proficiency in prosecutorial, defense, and appellate priorities and procedures. As an appellate attorney, he successfully argued in front of the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.



Jackson Tyler

#### **JACKSON TYLER**

Tyler's practice includes handling all aspects of complex litigation, providing clients with a valuable resource in the areas of white collar criminal defense, government and internal investigations, free speech and election law, general commercial, and appellate matters. He most recently spent two years as a judicial clerk for the Hon. Zel M. Fischer at the Missouri Supreme

Court, where he provided in-depth research, made recommendations, and ultimately assisted in drafting opinions. His previous experience also includes working for the Veterans Clinic and Criminal Prosecution Clinic at the University of Missouri School of Law and interning in the Missouri Attorney General's Office, specifically in the Criminal Appeals Section.

These roles provided Jackson with a strong background in research and writing in addition to beneficial exposure to legal processes. This included drafting amicus briefs in the United States Supreme Court on behalf of the National Law School Veterans Clinic Consortium and handling veterans' disability benefits issues, drafting criminal appellate briefs for state and federal courts, interviewing and examining witnesses for felony cases and hearings, trial and deposition preparation, and drafting and filing motions in response to petitions for writs of habeas corpus.

Tyler completed his undergraduate studies in English at Truman State University before earning his law degree from the University of Missouri School of Law.



1100 Main Street, Suite 2700 Kansas City, MO 64105 PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Alpine Litho-Graphics

### SUMMER ASSOCIATES GAIN LEGAL EXPERIENCE AT GRAVES GARRETT

The firm was proud to host two summer associates in June and July of 2022. Claire Hausman and Rachel Owings gained valuable experience at Graves Garrett this summer. The duo spent eight weeks working with the firm's attorneys in a range of practice areas while receiving training, mentorship, and exposure to the firm's clients and cases.



Graves said. "The firm remains committed to providing all summer associates with educational and rewarding experiences that enhance their legal education. These talented attorneys-in-training bring valuable perspectives to our firm and clients, and we're glad they chose to spend their summer learning alongside us."

A native of St. Joseph, Missouri, Hausman is a rising second-year law student at the University of Missouri School of Law. She completed her undergraduate studies in English and history at the University of Mississippi, where she was a member of the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College and graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa.

Hausman previously interned with an Am Law 100 firm and a New York-based immigration firm in addition to her work last summer with the Clay County Prosecutor's Office.

Owings, who hails from Mexico, Missouri, also studies at the University of Missouri School of Law. She graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Truman State University with degrees in economics and political science, and she was awarded the Outstanding Economics Major in her class.

Past internships for Owings include a French-language study abroad program in Quebec, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Economic Policy, and in the commercial lending office of a major financial services provider.



Claire Hausman and Rachel Owings

# DANE MARTIN EARNS DISTINCTION IN INGRAM'S "40 UNDER FORTY" 2022 CLASS

► Continued from page 1

local, regional, and national accolades for his work in high-stakes litigation. He has obtained many notable outcomes for clients, including a \$3.15 million



Dane Martin

recovery for a misrepresented food product, a multimillion-dollar settlement in a class action against the IRS, an award of millions of dollars for a client who was sexually abused by her high school golf coach, and a court ruling in favor of Platte County, Missouri, regarding a municipal bond financing agreement that saved taxpayers up to \$40 million. He has litigated cases in state and federal courts nationwide, handling a range of matters including business and commercial disputes, class actions, constitutional law, regulatory compliance and investigations, and governmental affairs.