

# Leaders in High-Stakes Litigation

## Fee, Smith, Sharp & Vitullo LLP

**B**usiness is booming in Texas, and word is getting out. By government estimates, the state's population is increasing by over 1,000 people each day.

Unfortunately, these gains have led to packed roadways, bustling ports, busy construction sites and ultra-productive workplaces that give rise to the number of accidents resulting in life-altering injuries and fatalities. When the question arises of whether a careless, reckless or negligent act was to blame, involved parties face an urgent need for skilled legal counsel.

### A Boutique Trial Firm

Fee, Smith, Sharp & Vitullo LLP (FSSV) is on the short list of whom to call in Texas following a major incident. The statewide practice represents companies and individuals facing high-profile disputes in a broad range of matters, including construction accidents and defects, personal injury torts involving catastrophic injury and death, major commercial transportation accidents and product and premise liability.

"When something happens in Texas, you need boots on the ground in Texas," says Thomas Fee, senior partner at FSSV. "Up-front investigation, preservation of evidence

and management of regulatory compliance issues are of paramount importance following an accident."

For corporate clients—who are frequently not workers' compensation subscribers—FSSV deploys its emergency response team at a moment's notice. Comprised of attorneys, outside experts and a media consultant specializing in crisis communications, the team gathers the facts and data necessary to represent the company's best interests in both Texas courtrooms and in the court of public opinion.

### Proven Courtroom Experience

When dealing with local and state courts, judges and involved parties, there's a crucial rule of thumb: Don't send a litigator to do a Texas trial attorney's work.

"In a crisis, people make the mistake of turning to whom they know," comments Fee.



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**Thomas W. Fee**  
Senior Partner

"Large corporate firms and transactional attorneys are vastly different from a Texas trial lawyer."

Fee has served as lead counsel in over 65 jury trials in multiple state and federal court venues, representing both plaintiffs and defendants facing multimillion dollar exposures. His proficiency is backed by strong appellate counsel.

"There's no substitute for trial experience," adds Fee. "Clients greatly benefit from our knowledge of venues, jury pools and risks. We have the ability to assess the value of a case in its early stages and to accurately evaluate its outcome for success."

**Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization**

**Rated AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale-Hubbell®**

**American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)**

**Selected as a "Texas Super Lawyer" in personal injury defense for nine years running (2006-2014) by Texas Monthly Magazine**

**Voted one of D Magazine's "Best Lawyers in Dallas" for 2013 and 2014 in the areas of tort and product liability litigation**