



JOHN R. ELROD

Partner

4375 North Vantage Drive
Suite 405
Fayetteville, AR 72703
T 479.582.5711 | F 479.587.1426

jelrod@cwlaw.com

John Elrod's practice focuses on litigation and dispute resolution. Mr. Elrod has over 40 years experience representing companies and individuals in a variety of matters, including recently defending a major poultry producer in environmental litigation brought by the Oklahoma State Attorney General. He has extensive experience in federal and state courts both in Arkansas and Oklahoma. Mr. Elrod has handled a number of large cases involving defense of claims brought under the federal CERCLA and RCRA statutes and other matters in environmental law.

Mr. Elrod is a past President of the Benton County Bar Association, and has chaired the Environmental Law Committee and the CLE Committee for the Arkansas Bar Association. He has been a member of the Arkansas-Oklahoma Environmental Task Force and is a former member of the Arkansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Compact Commission. Mr. Elrod is a former member and Secretary of the Arkansas Board of Corrections, was a Special Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court and a Special Chief Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court.

Sample of case results include:

- Represented two named plaintiffs in one of the largest civil anti-trust settlements in United States jurisprudence, the "Vitamin Price Fixing Litigation."
- Co-counsel for Fortune 500 company in claim for theft of trade secrets resulting in \$20M jury verdict.
- Defended poultry company in case brought by a state attorney general asserting violation of RCRA, CERCLA, common law nuisance and other environmental claims. Case was tried for 54 trial days over four months

PRACTICES

Class Actions
Commercial Litigation
Corporate and Securities
Environmental
Litigation
Product Liability
Litigation

EDUCATION

Georgetown Law
School, J.D., 1971
Westminster College,
B.A., 1968

ADMISSIONS

Arkansas - 1971
U.S. Supreme Court -
1982
U.S. Tax Court - 1972

resulting in dismissal of all monetary claims on motion.

- Represented plaintiff in a fraud and products liability case in US District Court for the Southern District of Indiana involving the design of a grain and forage silo resulting in a plaintiff's verdict of \$2.4M.
- Represented plaintiff in a fraud and products liability case in Missouri state court involving the design of a grain and forage silo resulting in a plaintiff's verdict of \$1M.
- Represented a poultry company in Arkansas state court defending claims of cancer and other physical diseases allegedly caused by the inhalation of arsenic in land applied poultry litter resulting in a defense verdict.
- Represented a poultry company in a multiple defendant case which asserted pollution of one of the largest lakes in Oklahoma caused by the land application of poultry litter as fertilizer. The Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals reversed the trial court's certification of a class consisting of 3500 littoral property owners.

Honors & Recognitions

Awarded the Richard S. Arnold Award for Lifetime Achievement by the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals

American College of Trial Lawyers

Westminster College Alumni Achievement Award, 2017

Special Justice, Arkansas Supreme Court, 2014

Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Commercial Litigation, 2010 - present

Recognized by *Chambers & Partners USA* as a Top Arkansas Lawyer for Litigation: General Commercial, 2019 - present

Arkansas Bar Association CLE Committee Chair 1994 - 1995

Arkansas Supreme Court Special Chief Justice 1988

Arkansas Bar Foundation Board of Directors 1983 - 1986

Arkansas Supreme Court Special Justice 1980

Benton County Bar Association President 1976 - 1977

John R. Elrod

Arkansas Bar Association Environmental Law Committee Chair 1975 - 1976

Benton County, Arkansas Deputy Prosecuting Attorney 1973 - 1975

First National Bank, Siloam Springs, Former Director and Secretary

Arkansas Board of Corrections Member and Secretary 1976 - 1981

Siloam Springs Chamber of Commerce President 1975

Vice Chair, Board of Trustees of Westminster College, Fulton, MO

Community & Professional

Arkansas Bar Association

American Bar Association

Arkansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Compact Commission

Arkansas-Oklahoma Environmental Task Force

News

58 Conner & Winters Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*[®]
08.29.2025

30th Edition of Best Lawyers[®] Recognizes 67 Attorneys from Conner & Winters
08.18.2023

Kobbeman, Elrod Appeal Ruling Blocking DNA Testing in West Memphis Three Case
01.11.2023

WOKA Kayak Park
07.19.2021

Conner & Winters Attorneys Honored by Chambers USA 2021
05.26.2021

Peers Rank Conner & Winters Lawyers as the Best in their Field
09.16.2020

John R. Elrod

Congratulations to the 59 lawyers from Conner & Winters who were recognized in The Best Lawyers in America© 2019.

08.15.2018

Conner & Winters Recognized by Chambers USA 2018

05.03.2018

58 Conner & Winters Attorneys Named to 2018 Best Lawyers in America List

08.15.2017

CONNER & WINTERS HONORED BY CHAMBERS USA 2017

05.26.2017

Alerts & Publications

59 Conner & Winters Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers in America

08.16.2019

CW Attorney John Elrod Published Article for Arkansas Association of Defense Counsel