

## Robin Gibbs

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When the stakes are high in securities litigation, whether for plaintiffs or defendants, Robin Gibbs often gets called.

His firm, for example, defends 15 former directors of Enron Corp. from a flood of more than 50 various class actions by investors and employee groups alleging fraud and misrepresentation. Gibbs also is defending Azurix Corp., an Enron-related affiliate, against a class action that alleges securities fraud related to Azurix's IPO. He recently won a dismissal with prejudice of the Azurix suit, including an order blocking the plaintiffs from refiling it.

"Candidly, we get hired in this area when there's a lot of money at stake," Gibbs says. His track record speaks to why clients turn to him in times of need. In recent years, he says he has won more than \$500 million for corporate plaintiffs. In the same time, Gibbs says those he has defended have lost nothing in damages — not a dime — in cases where the evidence presented realistic exposure of more than \$1.2 billion.

Gibbs says he has been either "blessed or cursed" with wanting to be a trial lawyer from a young age. After graduating from the University of Texas School of Law in 1971, he signed on with Vinson & Elkins in Houston. Gibbs left in 1974 to help form Wood, Campbell, Moody & Gibbs, a full-service firm. Gibbs & Bruns was formed (at first known as Gibbs & Ratliff) in 1983, largely comprised of the commercial litigation section from the former firm.

Gibbs & Bruns handles a wide array of commercial litigation, but securities law dominates the practice. And in the current corporate environment of financial controversy, Gibbs sees a growing amount of work ahead.

"Financial statement-related litigation is front and center and clearly is going to remain at the center of securities litigation for the next several years," Gibbs says. Describing his own style in court as "quietly tenacious," he fully expects to be in the center of big cases, trying them to juries.

"We've done it and done it repeatedly," Gibbs says.