

Bio for Mark Lanier

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Attorney, author, teacher, pastor and expert storyteller, **Mark Lanier** is no stranger to the public platform. Since he founded The Lanier Law Firm in 1990, Mark has earned recognition as one of the top trial attorneys in the United States, with firm offices in Houston, New York and Los Angeles supporting his work for clients across the nation.

Mark's courtroom experience is significant and diverse, and has earned a number of multi-million dollar jury verdicts in product liability and commercial cases – including one that became the basis for a Hollywood movie.

Mark's peers and the news media consistently recognize him among the nation's leading legal minds. He is a member of the National Trial Lawyers' Hall of Fame and was twice named Trial Lawyer of the Year by the organization. A member of The Legal 500 Hall of Fame, Mark earned the American Association of Justice's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015 and was the recipient of the coveted Clarence Darrow Award in 2012. The *National Law Journal* has twice named him as one of the nation's Top 10 Trial Attorneys, as well as one of the 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America.

For more than a decade Mark has been recognized in the Best Lawyers in America list published in *U.S. News and World Report*, which in 2013 named Mark among the Top Class Action Attorneys in America. He has earned selection to the annual Texas *Super Lawyers* list since it debuted in 2003, including being named one of the Top 10 Attorneys in Texas on multiple occasions. Mark was elected to the ABA's Fellows of the American Bar Association and was named a Life Fellow of the organization in 2012.

But what the honors can't measure or define is Mark's commitment and his passion for his clients. Often motivated by injustice and a sense of fair play, he has sought to even the score whether representing individuals or large corporations. Mark's courtroom work has resulted in feature articles in *The New York Times* -- which described him as "one of the top civil trial lawyers in America" – as well as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *Bloomberg News* and *The Houston Chronicle*, among many others. He also is a frequent guest on news shows such as CNBC's "Squawk Box" and Fox Business News' highly rated "Varney and Company."

Mark often serves as a featured lecturer at many of the nation's top law schools, including Harvard Law School, Stanford Law School, Pepperdine University School of Law, University of Chicago Law School and Texas Tech University School of Law. A strong supporter of his alma mater, Mark earned his law degree at Texas Tech University. He remains active at Texas Tech by serving on the law school's Foundation Board. He was selected as the Texas Tech University School of Law Distinguished Alumnus for 2005 and also was awarded the Texas Tech University's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2016.

Mark is enthusiastically involved in government and community activities outside the practice of law. Senior executives from major American corporations and universities often call on him for his respected business views on national and international issues. In 2011, Mark was bestowed the distinguished Ambassador of Peace award by the Guatemalan government, and he has received honorary doctorate degrees from Pepperdine University, St. John's University, and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

Mark is the founder of the Lanier Theological Library (www.LanierTheologicalLibrary.org), one of the nation's largest private theological collections. He teaches a weekly, 700-plus-member Sunday school class focusing on Biblical Literacy at Champion Forest Baptist Church in Houston. An accomplished author, Mark published the book, "Christianity on Trial" (IVP 2014) and a daily devotional book, "Psalms for Living: Daily Prayers, Wisdom, and Guidance" (Baylor University Press 2016).

Mark is the father of five wonderful children and lives in Houston with his wife, Becky.