

*Up & Coming*  
LAWYERS

# David Travers

POSITION: ASSOCIATE, TODD & WELD, BOSTON | AGE: 33  
LAW SCHOOL: SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL  
BAR ADMISSION: 2006

DAVID H. TRAVERS takes every opportunity to show new attorneys, law students and high school kids that while the law is demanding, its potential for positive impact is great. Travers coordinates his firm's internal mentoring program and serves on the hiring and marketing committees. In his construction and business litigation practice, he embraces technological tools such as e-discovery to ensure he provides the most effective representation possible. Travers is a founding member of the USA 500 Club, which brings together legal, accounting and financial professionals with civic and nonprofit leaders to address community issues.

**Q.** *What do you consider your biggest achievement as a lawyer to date?*

**A.** For me, the achievement is that opportunity you get to solve your client's problem, whether it's affirmatively to right the wrong when they're a plaintiff, or to defend them against someone who is coming after them. In the business of litigation, you get presented with a client who has an issue, and when you get to solve that issue for them and bring them a good resolution, that's a great achievement.

**Q.** *What's the most satisfying case or matter you've worked on so far?*

**A.** There are two significant construction cases that ran over a number of years and were factually intense. In both, I worked on the contractor side, and the litigation was against a public entity. Public projects can be enormous; getting into that level of factual detail and dealing with the very fine legal points that get raised in high-stakes litigation is incredibly satisfying.

**Q.** *Who was your most important mentor, and how has that person impacted your career?*

**A.** I've been able to get great advice from my parents throughout my life. Professionally, I've worked at two firms and at both I've been fortunate to have partners who took an interest in what I was doing and took the time to coach me and point out those things that only come with experience.

**Q.** *What is the best piece of professional advice you ever received?*

**A.** Do the right thing.

**Q.** *What advice would you give to students just graduating from law school?*

**A.** Recognize that there's an enormous amount that you don't know about practicing law, and that's OK. In knowing that you need to learn more, you're going to buckle down and do the hard work, whereas if you come out thinking you know everything, that's a tough position to take when you're new to practice.

**Q.** *What's one thing about you that might surprise people?*

**A.** In my free time, I often am found engaging in activities that require you to sign an "If you die, it's not our fault" waiver. I scuba dive, I skydive, I go skiing. I like to try to overcome obstacles or fear. I don't particularly like heights and speed, so I try to do activities that expose me to both of those things.

**Q.** *What is your dream vacation?*

**A.** I had the privilege of going on my dream vacation for my honeymoon. I went on a safari in Tanzania. That had been my dream vacation for many years, and it was exactly as jaw-dropping as I had hoped.

**Q.** *What was your very first job?*

**A.** I was a sales clerk at CVS in my hometown.

**Q.** *Describe yourself in one word.*

**A.** Happy.

**Q.** *Do you see yourself striking out on your own one day?*

**A.** I really don't. One of the things I enjoy about my practice is the ability to interact with my colleagues and brainstorm an issue, and that would be much more difficult if I was off on my own.



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