

## PROGRAM:

“Meet Your Next Jury: Lessons for Trial Lawyers from the Brett Kavanaugh Hearing”

Michael C. Hurley, Presenter

### Biography

Michael Hurley is an American-born attorney and author who now lives in London. He received a bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland at College Park in 1981 and a law degree in 1984 from St. Louis University. At St. Louis University School of Law, he was a faculty fellow in evidence and winner of the Milton Napier Award for trial advocacy. He received the Kniep Award for appellate advocacy from Chief Justice William Rehnquist of the United States Supreme Court in 1983. He began his legal career in Texas, where he was admitted to the bar in 1984 and started work as a defense lawyer with the Houston law firm of Taylor, Hays, Price, McConn & Pickering. In January 1988, just before his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday, he founded his own defense firm, which three years later was recognized as the fastest growing law firm in the Houston 100 based on year-over-year revenue growth. He practiced for eight years in Texas until the birth of his two children, after which he moved back to the East Coast and was admitted to the North Carolina bar in 1993. After practicing as a defense lawyer in New Bern for five years, he came to Raleigh and joined the law firm of Yates, McClamb & Weyher, where he became an equity partner and practiced for eleven years before re-establishing his own litigation practice. He was selected for inclusion in North Carolina Super Lawyers<sup>1</sup> each year beginning in 2006, when the recognition began, until his retirement in 2015. During his 31-year career as a trial lawyer, he handled numerous trials and appeals in the areas of medical malpractice, personal injury, and general litigation. He has been lead counsel on a number of important cases in the state appellate courts of Texas and North Carolina. He remains an active member of the State Bar of North Carolina and is an inactive member of the Texas Bar.

The Hurley Law Practice was acquired by Hedrick Gardner Kincheloe & Garofalo in January 2015, after which Michael retired from trial practice to pursue his interest in writing, sailing, and overseas travel. He and his wife Jill crossed the Atlantic from France to North Carolina by way of the West Indies on their 32-foot sailboat between 2016 and 2018. He is the author of seven books including three novels. He received the Chanticleer Prize for Book of the Year in 2013 for his first novel, *The Prodigal*. He received the Eric Hoffer Award for General Fiction in 2015 for his second novel, *The Vineyard*.

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<sup>1</sup> Selection criteria at [www.superlawyers.com](http://www.superlawyers.com)