



**J. Wesley
Earnhardt**
Partner
**Cravath, Swaine
& Moore**

J. WESLEY EARNHARDT said he can't remember wanting to do anything else but be a lawyer. And he got started early.

Wes, 38, was on the debate team in high school, acted as defense representative and prosecutor in a student-run court for honor-code violations in college, and spent a summer in college with The Public Defender Service in Washington, D.C., investigating felony cases on behalf of defendants.

Since joining Cravath, Swaine & Moore full-time in 2004, Wes has developed a successful record representing clients in significant and complex cases. His clients have included The Walt Disney Company, JPMorgan Chase, Time Warner and Xerox.

On June 4, 2015, he won a motion on behalf of ABC and ESPN to dismiss a class action brought by former NCAA football and basketball players who charged a conspiracy to prevent them from being paid for playing in televised games. The case is under appeal.

That same day, Wes also won dismissal of a securities case against the former chief financial officer of The ADT Corporation concerning alleged

misrepresentations about the company's financial condition. Later in 2015, he won dismissal of two related cases concerning the same allegations.

**Pro Bono/
Civic Activity**

Wes appealed the case of a man sentenced for brandishing a weapon despite his conviction for a less serious crime. Though a Third Circuit panel ruled the error was harmless, Wes played a key role in convincing the entire Third Circuit to review and then reverse the earlier decision, vacating the sentence.

He is a member of the Board of Directors of The Adams Street Foundation and also the Fund for Modern Courts.

My favorite part of the job is thinking creatively to help clients solve their most complex and challenging legal issues.

Experience

- Cravath, Swaine & Moore, partner, 2012-present; associate 2004-2011

Education

- J.D., University of North Carolina School of Law in 2004
- B.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2000

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