

**1871**

**1900s**

**MEHAFFY**

**WILLIAMS**

**FRIDAY**

**ELDREDGE**

**1871**  
Attorneys **George E. Dodge** and **Benjamin S. Johnson** formed a partnership representing St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad.

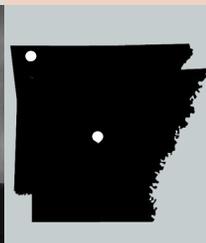
**1900s**  
Judge **Thomas M. Mehaffy** joined the firm along with other notable lawyers in the early 1900s, including **J.E. Williams, E. B. Kinsworthy, Lee Miles, R.E. Wiley** and **W. R. Donham**.

**1940s**  
The torch was passed to a new generation, including Mehaffy's son, **Pat Mehaffy, Henry Donham** and **Martin Fulk**. They practiced in new areas of law, including insurance.

**1952**  
**William J. Smith** and **John T. Williams** joined the firm, and a new partnership was formed and renamed to Mehaffy, Smith and Williams. **Herschel Friday** was an associate in the firm.

**1953**  
After their military service, **William A. Eldredge, Jr.** and **Bill S. Clark** joined the firm. Eldredge developed a expertise in trial work and representing railroads. Clark focused on labor relations.

**1960**  
The firm, still under the name Mehaffy, Smith and Williams, expanded into new areas of law by 1960, including taxation, bonds, real estate, securities, litigation, commercial and labor law.



**CLARK**

**SUTTON**

**2000s**

**EISEMAN**

**RUSSELL**

**GARDNER**

**1974**  
The firm formed the partnership as it is known today: Friday, Eldredge & Clark. Friday was the managing partner and chairman who led the firm's growth for the next 20 years.

**1994**  
When Friday passed away unexpectedly in a plane crash, Vice Chairman **William H. Sutton** succeeded him as chairman and managing partner.

**2000s**  
The firm continued to grow with the addition Rogers office in North-west Arkansas.

**2005**  
**Byron Eiseman, Jr.**, the firm's vice chairman and architect of the firm's taxation section and succeeded Sutton upon his retirement, becoming the 5th managing partner in the firm.

**2012**  
**J. Shepherd Russell III** became the managing partner when Eiseman stepped down to focus solely on his tax practice.

**2019**  
**Price. C. Gardner** was named the 7th managing partner in the firm. Gardner previously served as the firm's vice chairman. Russell remains a partner and focuses on his bond practice.