

UNDERWOOD

Stephanie E. Kaiser advises businesses, financial institutions, and organizations on complex legal and business matters, offering experience in both litigation and transactional law.

Stephanie represents clients in a wide range of commercial disputes, including lending and banking matters, contract and business disputes, construction litigation, regulatory issues, fraud, cybersecurity, and workplace matters. She also counsels financial institutions on regulatory compliance, commercial lending, and risk management.

Stephanie's diverse experience across industries—including financial services, agriculture, construction, healthcare, telecommunications, and real estate—enables her to provide clients with practical legal counsel tailored to their unique needs. Her methodical yet pragmatic approach to enterprise risk management, coupled with her unique problem-solving style, has established her as an effective advisor in both litigation and advisory roles.

EXPERIENCE

General Litigation, Regulatory, & Administrative Law

Represents clients in a variety of litigation matters, including fraud, fraudulent transfer, breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract, conversion, Texas Theft Liability Act, wrongful death, Deceptive Trade Practices Consumer Protection Act (DTPA), Lanham Act, and patent and trademark infringement.

Represents clients with regard to identifying, responding to, reporting on, and investigating data breaches and cyber security events.

STEPHANIE E. KAISER

Shareholder



CONTACT

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PRACTICE AREAS

Agriculture

Banking

Bankruptcy

Business & Corporate

Construction

Employment Law

Litigation

Real Estate

ADMISSIONS

State Bar of Texas

U.S. District Court, Northern
District of Texas

U.S. District Court, Southern
District of Texas

U.S. District Court, Western
District of Texas

U.S. District Court, Eastern
District of Texas

EDUCATION

University of Texas School of Law, J.D.

Texas Christian University, B.A.,
summa cum laude

EXPERIENCE

Represents clients in administrative and regulatory matters, including federal and state OSHA inspections, citations, and audits and banking examinations and external audits.

Represents clients in real estate development, residential and commercial construction, tower construction, and telecommunication matters as an outside general counsel and on corporate, transactional, litigation, and regulatory matters, including the development and implementation of MSAs, subcontractor agreements, and license agreements, ES&H handbooks, and in federal and state OSHA matters.

Represents various medical and dental practitioners in state board, administrative, and litigation matters.

Represents clients in negligence, gross negligence, shareholder derivative, and misappropriation of fiduciary property matters.

Represented professional association in litigation, corporate, labor and employment, board, administrative, and regulatory matters.

Represented real estate investment trust and other lessors in various lease agreement disputes involving real property located in Texas and Mexico.

Represented religious organization in insurance coverage of sexual abuse allegations.

Defeated claims of fraud and negligence on summary judgment.

Represented various plaintiffs and defendants in insurance coverage disputes.

Represented widow and child of man who was shot, abandoned, and killed by employees of a Webb County ranch in obtaining favorable jury verdict, judgment, and settlement.

Represented victim of negligent and excessive force by nightclub security guard in obtaining favorable jury verdict and judgment, including award of punitive damages that was affirmed by Third Court of Appeals.

EXPERIENCE

Represented alarm company in federal court against Lanham Act allegations.

Obtained vacating of citation issued against the employer relating to workplace fatality.

Obtained favorable settlement for tower construction company in defending against gross negligence allegations relating to deaths of two employees who fell from 300-foot tower.

Obtained injunctive relief on behalf of daycare against state agency.

Successfully represented clients in connection with OSHA inspections, investigations, and citations.

Corporate Governance & Counseling

Serves as standards of conduct official/speak up official for clients and external compliance resource.

Serves as a board consultant and as a consultant to management employees.

Develops policy and procedure guidance, including Bylaws, charters, Board policies, and management procedures on conflicts of interest, fiduciary duties, standards of conduct, internal investigations and reviews, and Whistleblower programs and provides practical training on such areas and with regard to such guidance to all levels within the organization.

Lending, Troubled Debt, & Bankruptcy

Represents various creditors and parties in distressed asset transactions and restructures, including the identification of distressed assets and non-interest earning (non-accrual) debts and options for returning such assets and debts to viability.

Represents various creditors in bankruptcy court proceedings, including adversary proceedings involving preferences, fraudulent transfers and breaches of contracts, and involving contested confirmation and valuation proceedings. Also represents various creditors in state court proceedings to: recover monies owed, including obtaining writs of sequestration and possession of collateral; defend against collection efforts; and obtain injunctive and other relief.

EXPERIENCE

Represented creditor in obtaining dismissal of Chapter 11 bankruptcy case with prejudice for bad faith filing.

Advised and trained clients on various litigation, bankruptcy, administrative, regulatory, labor and employment, and consumer law matters.

Served as sole arbitrator and mediator in matter involving two financing institutions.

Represented clients in handling special assets and resolving issues involving distressed debt.

Represented creditor in seeking declaratory relief in multi-state dispute over real estate and non-judicial foreclosure.

Advised clients and prepared documents on various financing projects, including syndication, participation and custom loans.

Represented clients to recover assets in matter involving extensive Ponzi scheme.

Corporate and Corporate Finance

Serves as outside general counsel to a number of clients in a variety of industries to provide overall guidance and management of legal affairs and related matters.

Represents clients in custom loans, participation loans and agreements, loan syndications, and refinances and assignments, including considerations of agribusiness, private equity, and multi-party participants.

Represents clients in corporate filing reviews and updating corporate filings to reflect goals of the company.

Represents clients on mergers and acquisitions, franchise agreements and relationships, and initiating and responding to due diligence-related items.

EXPERIENCE

Consumer Finance Experience

Advised clients on consumer laws, including Dodd–Frank Act and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), and provided training on same.

Defended cable company in federal court against Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and Fair Credit Reporting Act class action case. Plaintiff dismissed complaint after motion to dismiss was filed on behalf of cable company.

AFFILIATIONS

Robert W. Calvert American Inn of Court, Master

Standards of Conduct Workgroup

Data Privacy Workgroup

Collateral Evaluation Workgroup

Texas Bar College

Texas Bar Foundation, Fellow

RECOGNITIONS

Chambers USA, America's Leading Lawyers for Business, General

Commercial Litigation, 2022–2026

Austin Monthly Magazine, Top Austin Attorney, Commercial

Litigation, 2019

Fort Worth Magazine, Top Attorney, 2012, 2016

Fort Worth Business Press, Top 40 Under 40, 2013

Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters, Rising Star: Business

Litigation, 2006– 2012

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

Data Privacy and Cybersecurity – from an Ethical and Practical Perspective

Standards of Conduct, Fiduciary Duties, and Conflicts of Interest

Borrower Rights and Distressed Debts

Internal Investigations, Whistleblowers, and Criminal Referrals

Workplace Considerations for the Telecommunications and Tower Industry