



# HB Connections



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Welcome to our Winter 2022 edition of *HB Connections*. We are excited to give you a glimpse into the lives of some of our talented young professional alums. Each of their stories contains a facet of well-being, which continues to be an important area of focus for the firm as we move into the new year.

We feature next-generation lawyers like **Kelly Bub Smith**, General Counsel at B-29 Family Holdings, LLC, and mother of two young children who has found creative ways to incorporate wellness into her busy life, and **James Han**, who reconnected with Haynes Boone Partner **Rebecca Landau** for the interview and talked about playing golf together again. James considers golf part of his wellness strategy, saying outside interests like golf are his reward for working hard in his role as Senior Principal Legal Counsel at Whole Foods Market in Austin, Texas. You will also read about returning Associate **Sam Mallick**, who spent a year as a law clerk in Kansas and Arkansas. “The people at Haynes Boone are the reason to stay, and they were my reason to come back,” he says.

We continue to be amazed by the lasting connections between Haynes Boone alumni and our firm. Strong social connections are linked to increased happiness. This holiday season, we hope you will take time to connect with others, give back, and take time out for yourself.

Thank you to the alums who shared their stories with us. Thanks also to those who shared updates for the magazine’s News and Notes section. Please continue to stay in touch and let us know where you are and what you are up to.

Wishing you a happy, safe and healthy new year.



**TAYLOR H. WILSON**  
Managing Partner

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As chair of firm’s Alumni Program, I am immensely proud to see the next generation of leaders find success, both at Haynes Boone and as alums.

I hope this edition of *HB Connections* gives you a sense of connectedness to the young professionals of our alumni community and the firm. Indeed, there is a strong tie between well-being and being connected to others, and I hope our Alumni Program contributes to your sense of belonging. As we have stated several times before, please remember that you always have a home at Haynes Boone.

Thank you for your participation in the Alumni Program.

**PURVI PATEL ALBERS**  
Alumni Committee Chair



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# Kelly Bub Smith

## Piecing the Puzzle Together

As the General Counsel of a family office and private equity firm, **Kelly Bub Smith** has a unique role where she is thrown into new complex situations, operates outside of her comfort zone, and pieces together many moving parts in a fast-paced and dynamic environment.

She would not want it any other way.

Kelly has worked for **B-29 Family Holdings, LLC** for nearly seven years. The family office represents the interests of John Schmitz, who is a successful serial entrepreneur in the oil and gas and real estate spaces. She also serves as General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer for B-29's energy private equity firm, **B-29 Investments, LP**. Finally, she serves as General Counsel for many of B-29's operating portfolio companies, such as **Merit Advisors**, **Endurance Lift Solutions**, and **Caliber Completion Services**.

"It's very exciting to work with an entrepreneur like John Schmitz. He'll come to me with an idea, and then I'll help come up with the plan to execute and make it happen," Kelly said. "During my time at B-29, I've watched businesses get built, and it's so incredible to watch a business evolve from a concept to an influential player within an industry. I've learned so much from watching John and from the opportunities he's given me to run with."

Kelly wants to continue to be involved in building and growing businesses that are enhancing society and improving the livelihood of others through job and infrastructure creation.

### GETTING DEALS DONE

Kelly says she enjoys learning new things on the job every day, and her favorite part about her role is being able to combine her legal knowledge with

the practical and commercial aspects of getting deals done and keeping the businesses operating efficiently.

She was involved in two M&A transactions in the past year, including one that enabled a B-29 portfolio company, **Merit Advisors** (a financial services company offering property tax, sales and use tax, and economic incentive consulting primarily to energy companies), to enhance its oil and gas expertise and increase its bench strength through a strategic acquisition of a Houston-based property tax group. She also worked hand in hand with the B-29 business team on a transformative acquisition by **Caliber Completion Services**, an oilfield wireline company, of substantially all of the assets of Clearwell Wireline, which more than quadrupled the company's existing fleet of active wireline units and doubled the company's regional footprint.

She says her work allows her to be creative and use the law as a tool to accomplish larger business objectives.

"I view my work as a complex puzzle in which I need to get all the pieces where they need to go," she said. "Oftentimes, the puzzle pieces are much broader than

just the legal documents, and they require navigating many components, whether they be legal, financial, tax, political, or interpersonal, to name a few. There is nothing better than seeing the pieces come together and getting the big picture accomplished."

Along these same lines, Kelly is frequently involved in decisions that have a range of stakeholders, from family members of the family office to outside limited partners, private equity backed co-investors, financing sources, executive management team members, and employees of the various portfolio companies. She genuinely enjoys having the opportunity to work with all of these stakeholders. However, the large number of parties involved adds to the complex puzzle she is piecing together.

Kelly attributes much of her success at B-29 to the "excellent training ground" she experienced at Haynes Boone. Kelly started as a summer associate at Haynes Boone in 2011 and spent about four years at the firm from 2012 through 2016.

"I had the best experience at Haynes Boone and am so grateful. It was the perfect fit for me culturally – it is an amazing place with people I respect so much," she said.



"I view my work as a complex puzzle in which I need to get all the pieces where they need to go. There is nothing better than seeing the pieces come together and getting the big picture accomplished."

Kelly Bub Smith



Kelly visiting with former Haynes Boone colleagues Greg Samuel and Robert Bruner

I had the best experience at Haynes Boone and am so grateful. It was the perfect fit for me culturally – it is an amazing place with people I respect so much.

Haynes Boone gave Kelly valuable technical experience and taught her the importance of being “very detail-oriented.” “The expectations were high, and we worked hard to get matters across the finish line. It was a very collaborative, team environment.” she said.

Kelly says she has many lasting friendships with former Haynes Boone colleagues. “I have very genuine friendships there and many people I look up to as mentors. I also built an expansive professional network that I still rely on routinely,” she said. “In countless prior instances, an attorney from Haynes Boone has been able to help me with an issue at hand, and they are always glad to do so. I am so proud to be a Haynes Boone alum.”

#### GIVING BACK

As a next-generation lawyer, Kelly says she is thankful for those who helped her learn how to become a young lawyer. It is important to her to give back that mentorship, as evidenced by her annual participation in the Southern Methodist University (SMU) **Corporate**

**Counsel Externship Program**, which gives students a chance to work in-house in corporate legal departments.

“During my first few years of practice, I was just trying to learn as much as possible about how to be a lawyer and do the heavy lifting. It was all-consuming. Now that I’ve shifted to being more comfortable as a lawyer, it’s important to help others that are entering the profession receive the support and training I did,” she said.

Kelly also views it as a responsibility to use her legal skills when she can to help those who may not otherwise have access to legal advice. Kelly recently joined the **Promise House** Board of Directors in response to a call for new members with legal experience. Promise House is a Dallas-based non-profit that provides lifesaving care to youths who are experiencing homelessness. Kelly is grateful for the opportunity, which also gives her a chance to work alongside Haynes Boone’s **Kirsten Garcia**.

#### HOW DOES SHE DO IT ALL?

Kelly is also the mother of two young children. She says that, of course, handling the stress of a full-time career and raising two small children can be challenging. However, Kelly says that focusing on wellness in recent months has helped her keep it all going.

“I’ve realized that the only way to achieve all of the goals, hopes, and dreams that I have for myself and for my family is to have all aspects of wellness in my life, whether it be physical, mental, or emotional, operating on all cylinders,” she said.

To improve her overall wellness, Kelly began a regular strength training routine for the first time this year. She also implemented advice from her friend and former Haynes Boone colleague, **Kristin Reeves Santamaria**, who is now a Nutritional Therapy Practitioner, about healthier nutrition practices. Finally, she has been intentional about getting her steps in every day and finding creative ways to keep moving, whether that is meeting a friend for a walk or taking the kids on a stroller ride.

These changes give Kelly the energy boost she needs to keep up with life’s demands.

“From a family and mom perspective, I have more energy at the end of the day to play with my kids and be present for them,” Kelly said. “From a work perspective, it has increased my ability to focus. My job requires a lot of high-level, strategic thought, and it has put me in the right head space to think in that way.”

Kelly admits that it truly does “take a village” to raise kids.

“I am so fortunate that I have an incredible support system to help keep it all going, including my husband, my parents, my friends and other wonderful caregivers for my children. This support allows me the time that I need to also be able to take care of myself.”

I’ve realized that the only way to achieve all of the goals, hopes, and dreams that I have for myself and for my family is to have all aspects of wellness in my life, whether it be physical, mental, or emotional, operating on all cylinders.





# James Han

## Taste for Real Estate Leads to Senior Role at Whole Foods

**James Han** has come a long way from learning about real estate at Fordham Law to helping create a real estate department for one of the world's most renowned grocery and health food chains, Whole Foods Market.

He credits his time at Haynes Boone in New York – where “real estate is king” – for further solidifying his interest in the industry. Four years as a real estate finance associate provided a launchpad for James's future career as Senior Principal Legal Counsel at Whole Foods based in Austin, Texas.

“At Haynes Boone, I was fortunate enough to join a great group that was really good at what it did. I had great experiences where partners had an active hand in my progress,” he said. “I enjoyed working with the leasing team on legal abstracts and other projects and thought an in-house role might be the direction to take my career.”

In 2019, Whole Foods hired James to assist another colleague with the creation of the company's real estate practice.



“It was very unique to go to a large company as a mid-level, law firm-trained associate and build out a practice that was non-existent,” James said. “It has been incredibly satisfying to grow relationships with my business partners and stakeholders while building the practice.”

Founded in 1980, Whole Foods has 91,000 employees at 500 retail and non-retail locations in the U.S., Canada and UK, with more stores in development. James meets “with every kind of stakeholder in the various regions” and says communication with those stakeholders is key.

James has the pleasure of seeing how his work impacts communities, including his own. “We have

expansions and other projects going on at the stores where I shop. It's nice knowing I have a direct hand in improving experiences in my neighborhood,” he said.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF CULTURE

James was drawn to Whole Foods for the same reason he was drawn to Haynes Boone: company culture.

“I chose to work for Haynes Boone because I heard over and over that it's a great firm with great people. You don't consistently hear that about all law firms,” he said. “I wanted to work at a company where I would fit with a great group of people and have longevity. I enjoy staying in one place and building valuable relationships.”

“We have expansions and other projects going on at the stores where I shop. It's nice knowing I have a direct hand in improving experiences in my neighborhood.”

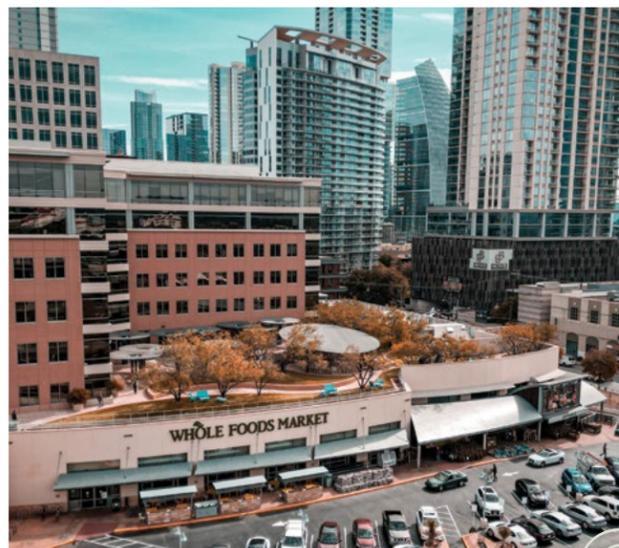
James Han



“The firm had such a nice culture, and the partners were very invested in my progress as a person and an attorney. I carried that over into my practice.”



*The Whole Foods corporate office and flagship store in downtown Austin, Texas.*



James still finds himself working with and turning to firm lawyers on real estate matters.

He says he learned to be a more effective leader by watching how Haynes Boone senior team members treated and invested in associates. Partner **Rebecca Landau** was among those who actively coached and guided James.

“I joined Becky when she was a senior associate in 2015, and she was so warm and kind. It helped dispel some misconceptions I had about what it meant to be a leader at a large firm like Haynes Boone,” he said. “The firm had such a nice culture, and the partners were very invested in my progress as a person and an attorney. I carried that over into my practice.”

Becky and James recently reconnected by Zoom for this interview. They shared some laughs about off-the-record topics (such as James’s ability to channel Bruno Mars and Usher in karaoke) and talked about playing golf together again. James says his desire to improve at golf is an important part of wellness for him. Getting to play golf and having other outside interests are his rewards for working hard.

Becky, who was promoted from senior associate to partner while working with James, commended him for his contributions.

“We were lucky to have a really strong real estate group with great clients, and James was a really strong part of our group,” she said.



## SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR STORIES

# Casey Kempner

*In the below Q&A, we caught up with Casey Kempner in his free moments as he was training his latest hire, a recent Haynes Boone alum, Kevin White. Casey is the General Counsel for **P&P Imports LLC** in Irvine, California.*

### Q: WHAT LED YOU TO YOUR CURRENT ORGANIZATION?

A: Since I began my legal career, I set a goal to develop my Intellectual Property skill set so that I could help companies build brands. When a Haynes Boone alumni told me about a quickly growing sporting goods and games company that was looking for an attorney with IP litigation and patent prosecution experience, I was immediately intrigued.

As soon as I met the owners of P&P, I knew it was a great fit. The owners are innovators and business savvy, and they knew that investing in IP would pay dividends in the years to come.

### Q: WHAT IS THE MOST FULFILLING PART ABOUT YOUR JOB AS GC?

A: The most fulfilling aspect of my job is training employees and stakeholders about the IP system. I get immense enjoyment when our employees are knowledgeable about the IP system and landscape. I have an open door, and encourage employees to ask questions, no matter the legal topic. It makes my job easier when everyone on your team understands the goals as well as the limitations. Everything runs smoothly when employees have an understanding of the laws and the reasons behind them.

**Q: CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT AN INITIATIVE THAT YOU HAVE WORKED ON IN YOUR CURRENT ROLE?**

A: An initiative I've enjoyed working on at P&P is developing a robust intellectual property protection strategy that includes patent, copyright and trademark analysis on every new SKU that P&P develops. This initiative has proved its worth several times over by keeping unscrupulous copy-cat companies at bay. It's very satisfying when you already have several tools in place to combat infringement as soon as it happens.

**Q: WHAT DID YOU GAIN FROM YOUR TIME AT HAYNES BOONE?**

A: Haynes Boone was a master class on professionalism. While all large firms always train and produce quality attorneys, Haynes Boone showed me the nuances of civility and professionalism. Unfortunately,

**“The most fulfilling aspect of my job is training employees and stakeholders about the IP system. I get immense enjoyment when our employees are knowledgeable about the IP system and landscape.”**

Casey Kempner

in our profession, tempers can often run too hot. Keeping an open mind and a willingness to engage constructively is often the difference between an amicable resolution and costly litigation. Haynes Boone was always clear; when you have the facts on your side, remain professional and let the facts speak for themselves.

**Q: WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH IN YOUR CAREER? WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE GOALS?**

A: I hope to become an invaluable resource on navigating IP protection tools for growing companies. IP protection can be both expensive and of little value when used inappropriately. I've seen countless large companies abandon their IP initiative because they failed to see it as something other than a pure cost center. They often regret it later, albeit only after infringement has taken over or when they are scrambling to establish value in a merger. When used effectively,



a robust IP protection plan can not only help the company grow, but also provide a moat around your business to allow it to truly thrive in a competitive environment. For certain products, IP protection is nearly congruent with the entire company value itself.

**Q: WHAT DOES WELLNESS MEAN TO YOU, AND HOW DO YOU INCORPORATE IT INTO YOUR BUSY LIFE?**

A: Wellness to me means you are able to bring 100% to the task at hand without serious sacrifice to your mental or physical health. P&P, being a sporting goods company, encourages everyone to stay active and enjoy the amazing weather we have here in Orange County California. I make it a personal responsibility to make sure employees are happy and healthy. A person that is happy and healthy will almost always put in higher quality work in a shorter period of time than someone who is unhealthy. P&P's success is in large part because of its quality employees. Their attitude and skills make working both fun and productive. Always take care of your team, and they will take care of you.

**Q: HOW HAS YOUR WELLNESS PRACTICE MADE YOU BETTER AT YOUR JOB?**

A: Without a wellness practice, I simply could not be a quality attorney. So many important decisions require creativity, ingenuity and an open mind. When you are not well, these aspects are typically the first areas to go and one can easily revert to poor reactionary decision making. This is the difference between trying to survive in an environment and thriving in it. For you and the company to thrive, wellness may not be sufficient, but it sure is necessary.

**“I make it a personal responsibility to make sure employees are happy and healthy. A person that is happy and healthy will almost always put in higher quality work in a shorter period of time than someone who is unhealthy.”**



## Haynes Boone Collaborates with Santa Clara Law School Faculty to Launch Leadership Development Program

Haynes Boone has enlisted two recognized authorities on leadership in the legal industry to help the firm launch a comprehensive new leadership development program for lawyers at all levels of their Haynes Boone careers.



The “HBuilding Leaders” program began in October and is unusual in its breadth, with varied training for lawyers at all stages of their careers, starting with first-year associates.

The curriculum will cover topics such as knowing and leading oneself and the concept of “followership” for first-year associates; developing self-awareness and empathy using the Thomas Personal Profile Analysis and the Harvard Implicit Association Test; and team leadership for third- and fifth-year associates. The **Leadership Challenge** operating model will be used throughout the program curriculum.

“We are reinforcing our already excellent training program, which teaches useful skills and helps reinforce our culture and client-service values with programs that will equip our lawyers with many of the key traits they will need as future leaders,” said Haynes Boone Managing Partner **Taylor Wilson**.



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Haynes Boone Partner Ann Al-Bahish practicing her daily meditation.

### SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

## Wellness Insights with Ann Al-Bahish: Finding Calm in the Courtroom

The thought of trying a high-profile case might cause heart-palpitations, shortness of breath, and other stress-related responses.

Attorney **Ann Al-Bahish** has found a way to minimize that pressure using proven meditation and calming techniques that she began adopting just after graduating cum laude from Harvard Law School in 1993.

A partner in Haynes Boone’s Litigation Practice Group, Ann is highly adept in presenting and analyzing expert testimony and evidence. In 2020, she successfully represented a major energy company in a jury trial of environmental contamination claims that lasted five weeks. In 2018, she tried and obtained a complete defense judgment on a \$90 million environmental allocation claim brought against her client in federal district court in Tacoma, Washington.

While Ann had tried meditation and other wellness modalities, it was during a period of very active work travel and trial work around 2016 that Ann committed to meditating each day.

“Meditation has helped me handle some very difficult situations that I would normally be anxious about, including being in trial,” she said. “It’s made a huge difference in so many ways.”

For one, meditation has helped her become more focused.

“Previously, a lot of my ‘productive’ time wasn’t all that productive – I was easily distracted, not present, and not rested,” she said. “Now, with the help of meditation, the time I spend on tasks is truly productive.”



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## Introducing Haynes Boone Wellness Manager Abby Read

We recently talked with Haynes Boone Wellness Manager **Abby Read** about what drew her to a career in health and wellness. Abby, who has a clinical background in psychology, nutrition, and health education, recently joined the firm to lead its wellness efforts.

**Q: YOUR CHARGE AT HAYNES BOONE IS TO HELP THE FIRM EXPAND AND ENHANCE ITS WELLNESS EFFORTS. TELL US ABOUT AN INITIATIVE YOU ARE WORKING ON:**

**A:** I am working on growing our Wellness Champions peer support program by adding Champions to each of our 18 global offices and providing training and certification in Mental Health First Aid. The Wellness Champions program is designed to provide a confidential and accessible avenue for our lawyers and business professionals to seek help and resources when needed. I’m excited for us to be able to extend our reach of compassionate support by having trained champions at each of our offices.



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## Office Openings



### DENVER

We proudly announce the relocation of our Denver office to the beautiful Block 162 Tower, located in the heart of Denver’s vibrant and active Central Business District.



### MEXICO CITY

In September 2022, the Mexico City office moved to a recently constructed 58-floor building that oversees Chapultepec Park, a large urban park, and also houses a Ritz-Carlton Hotel.



### CHARLOTTE

The Charlotte office recently expanded our space in the Bank of America Tower, which was designed to maximize productivity and efficiency.

**BRAD ADAMS**

(Dallas / BT / '97)  
Brad serves as President of Southwest Transplant Alliance (STA), one of the nation's leading nonprofit organ procurement organizations serving more than 10 million Texans. Brad is a fierce advocate for the donation community and helps drive healthcare policies and decisions that ensure the donation and transplantation system in the U.S. is fair, accessible, transparent and accountable. In 2023, Brad will lead the organization as President and CEO. Brad and his wife, Jen, remain in Dallas and have three children – Wesley (a junior at Rhodes College), Ellie (a sophomore at the University of Georgia), and Riley (a sophomore at Woodrow Wilson High School).

**KENNETH ADAMS**

(Houston / FT / '09)  
Kenny was recently promoted to Assistant General Counsel - Petrochemicals, Specialties, Europe & Saudi at Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP. Kenny and his wife, Texas, live in Spring, Texas,

with their three children. He still finds it hard to believe that their oldest child, who was born when he was a summer associate at Haynes Boone, is now in high school.

**LUIS ALBERTO PÉREZ**

(Mexico City / BT / '08)  
Luis is one of the founding partners of the legal firm CAYPE Abogados with offices in Mexico City, Los Cabos and Austin. He loves being with his four kids and wife, the outdoors, and working with entrepreneurs.

**BENJAMIN ALLEN**

(Houston / LIT / '09)  
Ben is now happily married to his best friend from high school, Aileen. On the practice side, he continues to litigate and try any case he can, big or small, along with his partner and fellow Haynes Boone alum, Casey Wallace.

**KELLI BILLS**

(Denver / LIT / '10)  
Kelli is Of Counsel at Tillotson Johnson & Patton, where she works almost exclusively on appellate matters. She has had the joy of continuing to work

with former colleagues from the Haynes Boone appellate group, as well. Outside of work, she and her family are often found on the Utah trails—hiking, running, mountain biking or skiing.

**JASON BINFORD**

(Dallas / FT / '04)  
As of November 2, 2022, Jason has joined the bankruptcy boutique firm of Ross & Smith, PC. Jason was most recently an Assistant Attorney General at the Office of the Attorney General of Texas in Austin, where he was the manager of the Bankruptcy Regulatory Team. Jason has opened the Austin office of the firm.

**CARMEN BREMER**

(Dallas / IP / '03)  
Carmen is continuing her work on the *Ashker v. Newsom* solitary confinement class action case. Working with co-counsel at the Center for Constitutional Rights and the ACLU, she won a second twelve-month extension of our landmark settlement agreement with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in February. Both

the first and second extensions are currently on appeal to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. In connection with that case, she argued a motion involving claims of retaliation against one of our class members before Senior U.S. District Judge Claudia Wilken in the Northern District of California on November 3—an issue we have been litigating since 2017.

**CHRIS CASTILLO**

(Houston / FT / '08)  
Chris joined Frost Bank in San Antonio in March 2020. He is grateful for the opportunity to work closely with Haynes Boone and several other Haynes Boone alums, including C.E. Rhodes and Brad Carson, in his current role at Frost as Associate General Counsel - Banking and Enterprise Services. He and his wife, Jae, also welcomed a baby boy, Sam, during the pandemic, whom they now enjoy chasing around as an active 18-month old. Chris misses all his old Haynes Boone Houston friends and looks forward to catching up whenever he is in Houston or when anyone is in San Antonio.

**CATHERINE CRALLE JONES**

(Austin / LIT / '89)  
Cathy continues her work as a senior litigator and counselor with the Law Office of F. Bryan Brice, Jr. in Raleigh, North Carolina. Her work focuses in environmental regulatory and personal property issues. Over the last year, Cathy has celebrated victories with landowner clients struggling with the construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. She has also worked with UNC Law School Environmental Pro Bono project to compile resources for real estate agents and prospective home owners to understand how to ensure drinking water is safe for use. Her most recent work in the North Carolina Utilities Commission has focused on energy affordability for low income households.

**RABECA CROSS**

(Houston / LIT / '03)  
Rabecca recently joined Mendrygal Law, PLLC, a firm founded by Dallas alumna Danika Mendrygal that serves nonprofit and tax exempt entities

exclusively. Rabecca is still based in Austin, where she spends her free time shuttling her 12, 13 and 15 year olds to their many extracurricular activities.

**DUNCAN DELANO**

(New York / FT / '10)  
Duncan opened the New York and New Jersey offices of Emerge Law Group in August of last year and has grown a large practice in the newly regulated cannabis industry in the tri-state area. Emerge Law Group, which has operated on the West Coast since 2014, is a full-service business law firm focused on highly regulated industries such as cannabis, psychedelics, blockchain, and craft food and beverage.

**THERESA EINHORN**

(Houston / FT / '77)  
Theresa has been elected Chair of the Board of Directors of The Rose, a mission-driven, non-profit health center providing breast cancer screening and patient navigation services for uninsured, as well as insured, patients. The Rose is part of the network of healthcare organizations striving

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OMNI BRIDGEWAY HAPPY HOUR - DALLAS - JUNE 2022

to provide access to healthcare services for all. The Rose, founded in 1976, now provides services onsite at its two facilities in Houston and also in rural areas with its four mobile coaches that travel to serve women in over 43 counties.

**DAVID EPSTEIN**

(Dallas / FT / '66)

David is continuing to use what he learned at Haynes Boone in his teaching at the University of Richmond Law School.

**CHRIS EWING LADD**

(Dallas / LIT / '89)

Chris is practicing at The Law Firm of Andrea Winters, which specializes in estate planning, asset protection, probate and estate administration. She and Corey are happy empty-nesters with a daughter in Dallas and a son in Washington, D.C.

**AUSTIN FROST**

(Houston / BT / '09)

In 2021, Austin rejoined Apache Corporation after a two-year hiatus working for a competitor and for White &

Case LLP. He stepped into a new role within Apache's litigation department after twelve years as a transactional attorney. On a personal note, his children, who stood with him when he was sworn in as an attorney in Haynes Boone's office, are now in college, and he and his wife are expecting their sixth child in January.

**MELANIE GILLES HERRERA**

(Mexico City / BT / '20)

Melanie changed her job a year ago. Since November 2021, she has been working for a unicorn company called Clip as Senior Manager for Legal Regulatory and as DPO of a group conformed by 2 Mexican financial entities: Clip, a Payment Aggregator, and Swap, a Fintech. Even though Clip is based in Mexico, they recently acquired an Inaugural Credit Facility for USD \$50 million dollars.

**SHEILA GLADSTONE**

(Austin / LIT / '87)

After 35 years, Sheila will be retiring from the full-time practice of employment law in December 2022. She will continue assisting Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle &

Townsend with transitioning leadership of the Employment Law Practice Group in 2023 on an as-needed basis, and she looks forward to the next stage of life.

**JENNIFER GREENLIEF**

(Houston / LIT / '08)

Jennifer recently joined Altice USA as Counsel for State Affairs. In that role, she works on legislative, regulatory, and ethics issues and assists with the company's broadband subsidy and expansion efforts. Jennifer is in the process of relocating from West Virginia to New York City for the new gig, and she is excited about life in the Big Apple! On a personal note, Jennifer reports that she was diagnosed with breast cancer earlier this year, but is nearing the end of her treatment, sporting a much shorter hairstyle, and enjoying the (surprising many) silver linings she's discovered through the process.

**MIKE HALLORAN**

(Washington, D.C. / BT / '65)

Mike formed his own firm, Halloran Farkas + Kittila LLP, which has offices in New York,

Wilmington, Washington, D.C., San Francisco and Jackson Hole. The firm specializes in representing businesses, from start up to IPO or M&A, and has three successful Delaware litigators who assist companies.

**CHAD HAMMERLIND**

(Austin / IP / '11)

Chad is enjoying his time as Counsel at Pillsbury, Winthrop, Shaw, and Pittman practicing patent prosecution. He and his family recognized a need for a 3-day eventing equestrian facility in the Austin area and opened Creekside Eventing in Georgetown, Texas. Creekside has a dressage arena, a show jumping arena, and future plans for a cross-country course, with a capacity of about 30 horses. Chad and his wife, Megan, hired an experienced trainer from Washington to run the training program for boarders and help Megan run their off-the-track thoroughbred program where they purchase or rescue racehorses and retrain them for 3-day eventing or other English riding disciplines.

**JUDY HE**

(Chicago / IP / '17)

Judy won asylum for a Honduran family and recently became Chair of the Public Interest Law Initiative's Young Professionals Board. She continues to enjoy running and exploring Chicago in the wonderful fall weather.

**SANTI HERRERA**

(New York / FT / '17)

In addition to prime brokerage, Santi is now working with sovereign finance transactions and helping with legal research and regulatory matters. On the personal front, he tied the knot Oct. 2021, and has resumed his writing of short stories and philosophical essays.

**BILL HILL**

(Dallas / LIT / '67)

Bill parlayed the knowledge he received from partners at Haynes Boone in how to supervise his 250 assistant DAs. Mike Boone is his hero!

**GEORGE HINCHEY**

(San Antonio / FT / '09)

George is still enjoying working

as real estate counsel for Las Aguilas. He and his wife, Meredith, recently had another boy. Anderson "Andy" Edward Hinchey was born on April 27. Though Andy came a little early and was a little small at the outset, he beefed up quickly and is already in 9-12 month clothing. George still runs (more walking than running these days) and is actively considering fulfilling a lifelong goal of learning to play the banjo.

**TYLER HUBERT**

(Houston / BT / '18)

Tyler works in the Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation practice group in Dykema Gossett's new Houston office. He and his wife are expecting their second child early next year.

**CASEY KEMPNER**

(Orange County / IP / '10)

Casey of P&P Imports LLC was recently nominated for General Counsel of the Year - Private Company by the Orange County Business Journal.



NEXT GEN EVENT - DALLAS - OCTOBER 2022



NEXT GEN EVENT - NEW YORK - JUNE 2022



**EVELINA LARGREN**

(Denver / FT / '18)  
Evelina is currently working as a Drafting Lawyer for the Supreme Administrative Court of Sweden. On a personal note, she got married on the top of a mountain in Colorado this past summer.

**YONG MIN LEE**

(Palo Alto / IP / '16)  
Yong Min is a partner and belongs to the IP & Technology Practice in Yulchon. He was a recent speaker at the 3rd Business+ Forum on the Korean entertainment industry presented by the British Chamber of Commerce in Korea and the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency. He has been named a Next Generation Partner, Intellectual Property in the Legal 500 from 2020 to 2022 and is a recommended individual by the World Trademark Review in 2021-2022.

**SARAH MALLET**

(Dallas / LIT / '11)  
Sarah was promoted to Assistant Regional Director at the SEC's Fort Worth Regional Office in September 2021. She continues to live in

Dallas with her husband, daughter, son, and labrador retriever.

**COLIN MCGEE**

(Houston / BT / '10)  
Colin was promoted to Assistant Corporate Secretary at Grainger in Chicago in July 2022. He manages the corporate and securities function there. He and his wife are due to have their second child at the start of 2023.

**DANIKA MENDRYGAL**

(Dallas / BT / '03)  
Danika continues to lead Mendrygal Law, PLLC as it has grown to a team of 7 lawyers, as well as paralegal and administrative support. Mendrygal Law is a boutique law firm devoted exclusively to guiding nonprofits, charities and other tax-exempt organizations and is now home to three Haynes Boone alumni: Danika, Amy Bellah, and Rebecca Cross.

**JULIAN MITHANI**

(Houston / FT / '07)  
Julian and his business partner sold their online energy plan shopping platform to Capital One Bank, where they now work,

building the energy vertical for Capital One Shopping. Julian, Katie and Noah (3) plan to stay in the Heights and continue their walking lifestyle as Houston weather allows.

**MELISSA NATURMAN**

(New York / FT / '13)  
Melissa joined Natixis as a Real Estate Transaction Manager in March 2022, where she works on commercial real estate loan originations, syndications and deal structuring. Melissa and her husband, Ben, live in New Jersey and have two young sons.

**CHRISTOPHER PEREZ**

(New York / FT / '09)  
After leaving Haynes Boone to move to Toronto in 2014, Christopher joined the prominent Canadian law firm McCarthy Tétrault LLP to continue his secured lending and project finance practice. In 2016, Chris was hired by the Province of Ontario, where he has worked on project and economic development financing for the Ministry of Northern Development and the Ministry of Economic

Development, Job Creation and Trade. He is currently supporting the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in respect of procurements and other commercial transactions.

**ROBIN PHELAN**

(Dallas / FT / '70)  
Robin recently wrapped up an appointment as a court-appointed expert to investigate and report on the viability of causes of action of the debtor in a Chapter 11 restructuring. He was also the independent director of a Chapter 11 debtor working with the Department of Energy to develop global transmission of electricity without wires. On a personal front, his wife is now one of eight members of the global executive committee at Baker and McKenzie.

**MICHAEL RAAB**

(Houston / LIT / '08)  
Mike is still enjoying his role overseeing management of disputes and litigation for EOG Resources, Inc. He was thrilled to be able to enjoy the Astros winning it all in Game 6 at Minute Maid Park with his 7 and 4 year old

daughters, Maya and Eva, and his wife, Jessi. Mike also continues to enjoy watching Longhorn football games, as trying and fruitless as that may seem.

**JOEL REED**

(Dallas / FT / '91)  
Joel is Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Stanley Martin Homes, a national homebuilder based in Reston, Virginia. Joel's career as a general counsel for real estate companies has taken him from Dallas, to Minneapolis, to Atlanta, and now to the Metro DC area.

**AMY ROSE**

(Houston / LIT / '17)  
Amy is Assistant General Counsel at Workrise Technologies Inc., an Austin-based tech start-up centering on workforce management solutions. She focuses mainly on Workrise's litigation and handles trials, hearings, depositions, brief writing, and other litigation-related tasks while also managing outside counsel on certain matters. She is really enjoying learning the in-house perspective while

enhancing her skills. Their entire legal team is fully remote, allowing her to travel extensively while progressing her legal career.

**PAUL RUSSELL**

(Houston / FT / '12)  
Paul recently transitioned to a new role as the SVP - Procurement for Silicon Ranch Corporation. Paul and his wife, Nicole, live in Nashville and recently welcomed their third child, and first daughter, into the family.

**STACY SALLEE WILSON**

(Dallas / LIT / '87)  
Stacy has been President of the Children's Hospital Association of Texas since 2016. Her husband of 20 years, Steve, is a home designer, rancher, and native plant specialist. Her step-daughter, Lana (age 34), works at Tesla selling utility-size battery systems and does a lot of stuff Stacy doesn't understand. Her step-daughter, Kelly (age 32), works for GlobalGiving where she helps non-profits around the world fundraise for good causes. Stacy and Steve sail a 35.5 Hunter and travel via sailboat and other modes of transportation when they can.



HOLIDAY SHOPPING EVENT - HOUSTON - DECEMBER 2022



RGB EVENT AT HOLOCAUST MUSEUM - DALLAS - JULY 2022



JESUIT HOMECOMING - DALLAS - OCTOBER 2022

**FRANCES SMITH**

(Dallas / FT / '01)  
 Ross & Smith, PC, was created in January 2019, when Frances joined a Dallas-based firm founded by Judith Ross specializing in complex Chapter 11 representations. It has since grown to seven attorneys. Frances also recently assumed her role as the Chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the State Bar of Texas.

**RICHARD STROHMENGER**

(New York / BT / '10)  
 Richard was promoted to Chief Counsel, Global Funds at Varde Partners in New York in January 2022. He and his wife (and big brother Zachary) welcomed their second child, Max, in September 2022.

**MARY-CHRISTINE SUNGAILA**

(Orange County / LIT / '91)  
 M.C.'s podcast, the Portia Project, was awarded best podcast by the Internet Marketing Association and is a Finalist for American

Lawyer Media's Innovation in Diversity and Inclusion 2022 California Law Award.

**ANDREW THURMOND**

(Washington, D.C. / FT / '11)  
 Andrew is counsel at Troutman Pepper working on renewable energy development and financing. Andrew and his wife Sarah now have two children, Carter (4) and Warren (2).

**KATHRYN TULLOS**

(Austin / LIT / '83)  
 Kathryn is the Chair of Democrats Abroad Spain. She and her husband have been traveling, with trips inside the USA and Spain, as well as Ireland and Italy this year.

**LIN YANG**

(San Francisco / IP / '20)  
 Lin is currently working as an associate at Hueston Hennigan LLP. She and her husband will be relocating to Orange County at the end of 2022 and hope to make SoCal their long-term home!

**VARANT YEGPARIAN**

(Houston / LIT / '09)  
 Varant has been a trial attorney trying commercial cases at Schiffer Hicks Johnson for the past few years. His girlfriend and their dogs still, somehow, keep him sane.

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## In Memoriam

We remember our friends and colleagues who have passed away – they will be missed. We send our condolences to their families.



**MARK HOPPE**

(Fort Worth / LIT)  
 October 16, 1957 –  
 September 2, 2022



**MARIA TERESA ARGUINDEGUI**

(Houston / LIT)  
 June 7, 1963 –  
 September 22, 2022

## Sam Mallick Not in Kansas Anymore

(DALLAS / LITIGATION / '18)



Dallas Litigation Associate **Sam Mallick** recently returned to Haynes Boone after serving as a law clerk at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in Lawrence, Kansas, and the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas. We caught up with Sam to talk with him about his time away and his impressions upon returning to the firm in August 2022.

### WHAT DID YOU MISS MOST ABOUT HAYNES BOONE WHILE YOU WERE GONE?

When I came back from my first clerkship in 2020, it was fully virtual, so even then I missed being around the people. The difference between the chambers environment and here is that chambers was a very small, slow-paced environment. Here, the idea of working on only one case for a week is ridiculous, because there is always so much going on. The idea of only having two or three work friends is ridiculous, because there are so many people here, and you want to be friends with all of them.

### WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO COME BACK?

Looking at my peers, my best friend from law school is no longer practicing law because he had a miserable experience at his firm. Other friends have cycled through a couple firms at this point, and some had their hours cut during the peak of COVID. I was worried that my offer was in jeopardy because of the pandemic, but it was the opposite. In fact, I started working here again much earlier than I expected. The thing that stuck with me about wanting to come back is that Haynes Boone is a stable place to be. And I missed the people I worked with while I was away.

### WHAT'S MOST SURPRISING TO YOU UPON YOUR RETURN?

I started my career at the firm as a fast-track associate and summer associate in 2017. Five years later, it still feels familiar. That isn't to say that positive change hasn't happened, but the big things that make Haynes Boone the firm that it is have stayed the same.

### IF SOMEONE ASKED YOU TO DESCRIBE HAYNES BOONE, HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE IT?

It has big-law quality without big-law attitude. The people are the reason to stay, and they were my reason to come back.

As we prepare *HB Connections*, we think about how we can make each issue more meaningful. This issue, we invited our lawyers to participate in the interviews with our alumni. I was energized by getting to participate in the reunion of James Han and Rebecca Landau and felt joy in reviewing the photos from Kelly Bub Smith, Greg Samuel and Robert Bruner's photo shoot in our Dallas office. As we enter the busiest season of the year, I hope that you also get to experience the renewal that comes from getting to reconnect with the important people in your life from past and present and the hope that renewal brings for the future. My hope, as always, is that when we come together in community, we push the limits of what is possible individually.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if we can connect you with a former colleague or a new community as part of our alumni relations efforts.

'Tis the season,  
Laura

**LAURA HIGGINS**  
Manager of Alumni Relations



#### CONNECT

Get connected to your next job opportunity with our alumni job board at [haynesboone.com/alumni](https://haynesboone.com/alumni).

#### GROW

We offer regular CLE opportunities, both live and pre-recorded. For more information, contact [AlumniCLE@haynesboone.com](mailto:AlumniCLE@haynesboone.com).

#### SHARE

Join our LinkedIn Alumni Group and share your story about why giving back to the community is important to you.

#### ALUMNI COMMITTEE

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