

Haynes and Boone in Law360: Virus Should Delay \$30M Texas Trial, Real Estate Co. Says

August 26, 2020 Lynne Liberato, Kent Rutter, Chris Knight

PRACTICES Commercial Real Estate Leasing, Litigation, Real Estate

A Haynes Boone litigation team is mentioned in a *Law360* article about the scheduled trial for *Baron v. AMLI*, which concerns a dispute over the sale of a large apartment complex.

The Haynes Boone Partners [Lynne Liberato](#) and [Kent Rutter](#) and Associate [Chris Knight](#) represent plaintiff Baron Real Property Holdings LLC in the matter. The case is scheduled for a possible three-week, in-person trial in Harris County District Court starting Sept. 7, but Baron has asked the court to delay the trial because of the risks of COVID-19.

Below is an excerpt of the *Law360* article:

Lawyers for a large Houston apartment complex have urged a Texas judge to push back their \$30 million trial next month against the company that sold them the property, saying that during the coronavirus pandemic there's "no reason anyone should get sick — or die — to resolve this."

Lawyers from Haynes Boone and Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP, representing plaintiff Baron Real Property Holdings LLC, said in a filing Monday that the case over the real estate transaction ... is "likely one of the most complex matters on this court's docket." They suggested it's not a good candidate for an in-person trial at a time when virtually all jury trials in the state are halted until Oct. 1 under an order from the Texas Supreme Court.

The suit against AMLI Residential Properties LP and BPMT Towne Square Partnership concerns the sale of a large apartment complex with allegedly serious property defects.

The lawyers have requested a hearing for Thursday.

"While some have concluded that 'small socially distanced trials might work,' not even the most optimistic think 'complex or extended cases' should be tried. That should be especially so in Harris County, where the infection rate for COVID-19 exceeds 85 percent of all other Texas counties combined," Baron's counsel said.

Baron is represented by Lynne Liberato, Kent Rutter and Chris Knight of Haynes Boone and William Helfand and Shane Kotlarsky of Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP.