

Haynes Boone Argues for Uvalde Transparency as New Texas Appeals Court Holds First Hearings

October 31, 2024 Laura Prather, Reid Pillifant

PRACTICES Intellectual Property Litigation, Media and Entertainment Litigation, Texas Corporate Governance, Texas Business Courts Task Force

Haynes Boone became part of Texas legal history Wednesday when it took part in the first day of oral arguments for the newly created Fifteenth Court of Appeals.

Media Law Practice Group Chair [Laura Prather](#) led the firm's argument for the release of records connected to the 2022 Robb Elementary School mass shooting in Uvalde, where 19 students and two teachers were killed. Haynes Boone represents a coalition of dozens of news organizations fighting for the release of records from the Department of Public Safety. [Media Law](#) Associate [Reid Pillifant](#) also supported Prather and the firm's appellate team.

Texas lawmakers created the Fifteenth Court of Appeals in 2023 as part of the new Texas business court system. With one of the state's leading business litigation practices, Haynes Boone assembled a [Texas Business Courts Task Force](#) to monitor cases and rules within the new system to best advise clients on navigating the new courts.

News outlets from around the country covered both the meaningful fight for records and the historic day in court.

See a full list of the coverage below:

Associated Press: [News groups ask Texas court to order release of state police records of Uvalde shooting](#)

Fox News (Dallas): [Newly-formed appeals court hears arguments for release of Uvalde school shooting state records](#)

CBS News (Dallas): [Legal battle intensifies over release of body camera footage from Uvalde school shooting](#)

ABC News (Dallas): [Appeals court hears arguments on whether to order Texas DPS to release Uvalde school shooting records](#)

Law360: [Texas Trying To 'Cloak' Uvalde Records Forever, Justices Hear](#)

ABC News: [News groups ask Texas court to order release of state police records of Uvalde shooting](#)

Texas Lawbook: [15th COA Hears First Arguments in Cases Involving State Entities](#)

American Lawyer: [For the First Time, Texas Court Hears Oral Arguments](#)

NBC News (San Antonio): [Media organizations demand DPS release Robb Elementary Shooting records](#)

ABC News (San Antonio):

