

## Haynes Boone's Labor & Employment Practice Ranked Among Best in Texas by Chambers USA

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**PRACTICES** Labor and Employment

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Haynes Boone's Labor and Employment Practice Group has been ranked as one of the best in Texas, according to *Chambers USA's* 2022 rankings (Chambers and Partners).

The practice group was cited in this year's guide as offering "comprehensive" employment representation to a variety of clients, including those in the healthcare and retail industries. *Chambers* underscored the group's national stature, as well as its reputation for work in OSHA and employment litigation and counsel. The directory mentioned the group's strength in wage and hour collective actions, along with discrimination actions and claims. It made particular note of Haynes Boone's handling of employment questions relating to corporate transactions and acting in unfair competition and trade secret cases. Additional sources praised the team, saying:

"It is a great firm with extremely high-calibre attorneys at all levels. The lawyers take the time to learn their clients, industry and touch points."

Several Haynes Boone employment lawyers were also included in this year's guide:

*Chambers* described Partner [Matthew Deffebach](#) as being "especially well-versed" in a variety of issues, including workplace safety and OSHA inquiries and citations, noting his counsel to clients in the national retail space, in particular. Other contacts also praised him, saying:

"He does a great job within the OSHA specialty he has developed and has great clients nationally."

Partner [Karen Denney](#) was recognized for her contribution to the firm's growth. *Chambers* spotlighted her work on the "full gamut" of employment litigation. Other sources praised her, stating:

*"She's great across all pieces of labor and employment. I would highly recommend her for anyone needing employment advice in the U.S. I trust her guidance and opinion."*

*"Her attentiveness, responsiveness and availability are really important to me. She always does a good job of making me feel like the only client."*

*Chambers* said Melissa Goodman is being frequently sought out to handle sensitive labor and employment litigation and internal investigations. Several sources also applauded her work, commenting:

*"Melissa is very client-focused and responsive. She gives practical advice and you get the highest level of attention from her."*

*"She is very knowledgeable and has a great presence."*

Partner [Laura O'Donnell](#), who serves as co-chair of the firm's Litigation Practice Group, was

described as “particularly adept” for her work in handling wage and hour class and collective actions. The guide cited her assistance with client internal investigations. Market sources complimented her as well:

*“She is a fixture in the San Antonio and Austin markets and is very knowledgeable.”*

Haynes Boone’s [Labor and Employment Practice Group](#) is a full-service team of employment lawyers who handle complex, high-stakes labor and employment matters. Their clients include domestic and international businesses in a variety of industries, including energy, aviation, retail, healthcare, finance, manufacturing and construction. The team handles matters across a broad national footprint, including California, where cutting-edge labor and employment issues often emerge first.