



Kelli Bills

Associate

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PRACTICES Appellate

Kelli Bills draws on a passion for appellate advocacy and the intricacies of the law to assist clients at every stage of litigation, from pretrial dispositive motions to complex appeals.

Kelli has assisted clients in a wide array of industries with a variety of legal issues, from partnership and contract disputes to bankruptcy and arbitration. Kelli enjoys analyzing the legal issues presented in each case to find the best arguments for her clients. She then uses those arguments to craft persuasive pre- and post-trial motions and appellate briefs for clients before both federal and state courts.

Kelli takes her civic responsibilities as seriously as her responsibility to her clients. Kelli has accepted several pro bono representations, one of which led to oral argument before the Fifth Circuit as *amici* counsel on behalf of eight public interest organizations. Kelli was selected as a member of the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers Leadership Class and as an associate in the Higginbotham Inn of Court in 2013. Kelli has also authored numerous articles, including a quarterly update on Fifth Circuit opinions for the State Bar of Texas *Appellate Advocate* publication.

Professional Recognition

- Selected for inclusion in *Texas Super Lawyers Rising Stars*, Thomson Reuters, 2016-2020.

Professional and Community Activities

- Colorado Bar Association
 - American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Appellate Practice
 - Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit
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QUALIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Texas School of Law, 2010, *with high honors*; Chancellor; Order of the Coif; Order of Barristers; Finalist in Conrad Duberstein Bankruptcy Interscholastic Moot Court Competition, 2010; *Texas Review of Law and Politics*, Senior Editor; *Texas International Law Journal*, Co-Director of Development

HAYNES BOONE

- B.A., Government, University of Texas at Austin, 2007, Liberal Arts Honors; Phi Beta Kappa; minor in Economics

CLERKSHIPS

- 1/01/0001 - 1/01/0001
- The Honorable Catharina Haynes, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, 2010-2011

ADMISSIONS

- Colorado
- Texas
- Utah

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas

PUBLICATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Colorado Bar Association Annual Appellate CLE Update, co-moderator, November 15, 2019.
- "[Fifth Circuit Update](#)," co-author, *The Appellate Advocate*, State Bar of Texas Appellate Section, Spring/Summer 2018.
- "[Fifth Circuit Update](#)," co-author, *The Appellate Advocate*, State Bar of Texas Appellate Section, rel="noopener noreferrer" Fall 2017.
- "[Fifth Circuit Update](#)," co-author, *The Appellate Advocate*, State Bar of Texas Appellate Section, Summer 2017.
- "Fifth Circuit Update," co-author, *Appellate Advocate*, State Bar of Texas Appellate Section, Spring 2017.
- "Fifth Circuit Update," co-author, *Appellate Advocate*, State Bar of Texas Appellate Section, Winter 2017.
- "Fifth Circuit Update," co-author, *Appellate Advocate*, State Bar of Texas Appellate Section, Spring 2016.
- "Fifth Circuit Civil Appellate Update," co-author, *Appellate Advocate*, State Bar of Texas Appellate Section, Fall/Winter 2016.
- "Rule 50 and Purely Legal Arguments: A Circuit Split," author, *Appellate Practice*, American Bar Association Section of Litigation, Spring 2013.

SELECTED CLIENT REPRESENTATIONS

- MRC Permian Company v. Three Rivers Operating Co., 2015 WL 4639711 (Tex. App.—Dallas 2015, pet. denied): assisted with briefing on appeal that resulted in reversal of \$14.2 million contract claim against oil and gas client.
- Assisted with briefing in trial court and on appeal that resulted in successful resolution on appeal of \$68 million jury verdict arising from fraud and contract claims brought by oil and gas investors

(2015).