



Chris Knight

Associate

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PRACTICES Appellate, Litigation

Chris Knight started his legal career as a judicial law clerk, first at the Texas Supreme Court and then at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Now an advocate, Chris draws on that experience to advance his clients' interests through well-crafted legal arguments throughout the trial and appellate process. Chris has prepared briefs on a variety of cutting-edge legal issues—from the types of damages available in fraud cases, to the scope of the State of Texas' sovereign immunity, to a criminal defendant's constitutional right to exculpatory evidence before pleading guilty.

Chris graduated first in his class from SMU Dedman School of Law, where he served as lead articles editor on the *SMU Law Review* and as an officer in the Christian Legal Society. He also actively served his community during law school, volunteering with an organization that combated urban blight in West Dallas and teaching government and civics to Dallas fifth graders.

Chris is a member of the Appellate Section of the Texas State Bar and regularly authors case summaries for the Section's quarterly publication. He is also a member of the Texas Supreme Court Historical Society, the Tarrant County Bar Association, and the Federalist Society. Outside the office, Chris is active in his congregation and enjoys playing tennis as well as spending time with his wife and two daughters.

QUALIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- J.D., Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law, 2015, valedictorian; *summa cum laude*; Order of the Coif; lead articles editor, *SMU Law Review*
- B.B.A., Abilene Christian University, 2012

CLERKSHIPS

- 1/01/0001 - 1/01/0001
- Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Leslie H. Southwick, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, 2016-2017

Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Jeff Brown, Texas Supreme Court, 2015-2016

ADMISSIONS

- Texas

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
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PUBLICATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Justice Paul Green's Legacy on the Texas Supreme Court," co-author, *The Texas Lawbook*, July 24, 2020.
 - Judicial Profile: Judge Mark T. Pittman, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, author, *The Texas Lawbook*, June 17, 2020.
 - "Texas Supreme Court 2018-19 Term Review" and "Brave New World: Changes to the Texas Citizen's Participation Act (TCPA) and Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 91a," speaker, ACU Alumni Bar Association CLE, October 2019.
 - "State and Federal Appellate Procedure," speaker, *State Bar of Texas Appellate Section: Appellate Diversity Committee CLE*, April 2019.
 - "Rule 91a Dismissals and Appeals," co-author, *The University of Texas School of Law State and Federal Appeals CLE*, June 2018.
 - "Texas Supreme Court Update," co-author, *State Bar of Texas Appellate Section Appellate Advocate*, quarterly, beginning in 2018.
 - "International Human Rights Litigation After Bauman: the Viability of Veil Piercing to Hale Foreign Parent Corporations into U.S. Courts," author, 41 U. Dayton L. Rev. 213, 2016.
 - "Post-Kiobel Procedure: Subject Matter or Prescriptive Jurisdiction?" co-author, 19 UCLA J. Int'l L. & Foreign Aff. 49, 2015.
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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Included in the "Ones to Watch" category of *Best Lawyers in America*, Woodward/White, Inc., 2021-2022
- Chosen as a Top Attorney in *Fort Worth, Texas magazine*, Panther City Media Group, LP, 2021