



Christopher D. Sileo

MANAGING PARTNER

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Overview

Chris represents defendants and plaintiffs in complex legal matters. His docket regularly includes all types of business disputes, cases alleging professional malpractice, class action cases, oil and gas matters, and cases concerning the powers or decisions of state and local governments. Chris has prosecuted and defended lawsuits throughout Texas and around the country, and he has successfully tried jury and bench trials in both state and federal courts, as well as before state regulatory agencies. Additionally, Chris often assists clients with complicated negotiations outside the context of traditional litigation.

Experience

Obtained a defense jury verdict on behalf of the purchaser of a television station whose right to purchase the station was challenged by the plaintiffs.

Defeated a trade-secret temporary injunction sought by a plaintiff that would have prevented a new business from operating and later obtained a summary judgment dismissing the lawsuit.

Defended an oil and gas company in various royalty disputes, including alleged class actions.

Represented landowners, developers, and general and limited partners in all types of disputes related to real estate

development, including contract actions, breach of fiduciary duty, and fraud.

Defended attorneys in malpractice and fiduciary disputes related to numerous areas of underlying substantive law, including trusts & estates, intellectual property, and general litigation malpractice.

Obtained a defense verdict in a trial defending the approval of a controversial redevelopment project.

Successfully defended a state-wide elected official in a federal civil rights lawsuit — obtained a dismissal of the lawsuit on the pleadings.

Obtained a favorable resolution on behalf of a municipality that was sued under the federal Clean Water Act and the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

Awards

- Texas Super Lawyer, a Thomson Reuters business, Business Litigation 2014 – 2024
- Texas Rising Star, a Thomson Reuters business, nine consecutive years, 2005 – 2013
- Judicial Clerk — United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, 2000 – 2001
- Order of the Coif

News & Insights

- Congrats to our 2021 Texas Super Lawyers
- Congrats to our 2023 Texas Super Lawyers
- SDM secures appellate victory in a mass action lawsuit
- Congrats to our SDM 2024 Texas Super Lawyers

Practice Areas

- Business Litigation & Torts
- Class Action Litigation
- Oil & Gas Litigation
- Appellate

Education

- University of Virginia, B.A., Government, 1995
- University of Texas School of Law, J.D. with honors, 2000

Admissions

- State Bar of Texas
- United States Supreme Court
- U.S. District Courts for the Eastern, Northern, Southern and Western Districts of Texas.

Activities

- Member, Litigation Section, State Bar of Texas
- Member, Austin Bar Association
- Member, Austin Young Lawyers' Association
- Fellow, Texas Bar Foundation