



Molly L. Pela

Partner

mpela@thompsoncoe.com | 713-403-8221

Molly Pela is a trial lawyer. Her diverse practice includes defending commercial and industrial accident claims, transportation injuries, dram shop actions, and premises liability involving property damages, personal injury and wrongful death. Molly has defended numerous clients in all aspects of personal injury litigation from minor damages to catastrophic injuries.

Molly has defended many property owners, property management entities, bars, hotels, and restaurants involving a wide variety of premises liability claims, from minor slip and falls to felonious third-party criminal involvement. She also has represented many entertainment venues including water parks, indoor trampoline parks, and outdoor music venues in a variety of personal injury claims.

Molly's transportation practice extends nationwide and includes representing local and long-haul trucking companies and their drivers in claims for personal injury and wrongful death. She also has experience in DOT/FMCSA compliance issues and audits.

Molly's energy practice focuses on the representation of well interest owners, petroleum services companies, product manufactures, production crews, and other entities related to oil and gas production. Molly has successfully defended many companies and individuals in claims of personal injury and wrongful death.

Molly also represents contractors and subcontractors in claims of construction defects. These complex cases involve allegations of improper design, engineering deficiencies, Building Code violations, and work of various trades. Molly has experience in defending these cases in Courts and before Arbitration Panels throughout the State.

Representative Experience

- Obtained summary judgment pursuant to CPRC §73.001 for homeowner who shot guest

Services & Industries

- Restaurants, Retail & Hospitality
- Transportation
- Admiralty & Marine
- Gulf Coast Practice

- Obtained Take Nothing Judgment for indoor trampoline park in a premises liability claim involving significant injuries to minor
- Obtained summary judgment on behalf of refinery in Pasadena, Texas in personal injury action after pipe explosion
- Obtained dismissal for a subcontractor in allegation that construction defects lead to the wrongful death of a tenant
- Obtained defense verdict in a commercial litigation claim where damages sought were in excess of \$60 million
- Obtained zero dollar verdict defending long-haul trucker who rear ended another driver

Education

- St. Mary's University School of Law (J.D., 2004)
- Texas A&M University (B.S. Political Science, 2001)

Bar Admissions

- Texas, 2004

Court Admissions

- United States District Court, Northern, Southern, Western and Eastern District of Texas

Professional and Community Activities

- Houston Bar Association
- Court Reporters Certification Advisory Board to the Judicial Branch Certification Commission – Attorney member
- Texas Bar Foundation - Fellow

Professional Recognition

- Named to *Law & Politics* magazine's *Texas Super Lawyers® - Rising Stars* list, 2017, 2018, 2019