



Heather M. Beam

Partner

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512-703-5039

Heather Beam focuses her practice on complex design and construction litigation in arbitrations, state court, and federal court. She has successfully represented general contractors, subcontractors, architects, engineers, surveyors, realtors, and brokers in residential, commercial, and highway projects.

Her practice includes the defense of design and construction defects, construction site injuries and fatalities, and allegations of fraud and concealment of defects when properties are sold.

Heather also has experience drafting contracts for design professionals and contractors at the beginning of projects, advising clients during ongoing construction projects when problems arise, and negotiating claims to help her clients avoid litigation. She also handles representing clients in professional licensure board complaints.

Heather prides herself on keeping her clients informed as a case develops. By actively communicating with her clients at each step of the litigation process, she fine-tunes her approach so that she is constantly focusing on the best interests of her clients.

She is also an active member of several professional organizations in Travis County and enjoys speaking on issues that face contractors, subcontractors, and design professionals.

Representative Experience

Obtained multiple dismissals of architects and engineers in lawsuits based on failure to comply with certificate of merit requirement.

Negotiated favorable settlements for general contractor in multiple pre-suit claims and complex lawsuits arising out of alleged defects in luxury high-rise building prior to conducting written discovery or depositions.

Obtained summary judgment for roofing subcontractor in complex construction defect arbitration based on expiration of statute of repose.

Obtained partial judgment on the pleadings for subcontractor in construction defect lawsuit since subcontractor did not owe a legal duty to the property owner.

Negotiated settlement in complex arbitration for materials testing engineer arising out of alleged design and construction defects in a large highway project.

Assisted multiple architects in risk management strategies during active construction projects.

Successful in appeal holding that trial court abused its discretion in denying general contractor's motion to compel arbitration.

Anderson-Jenkins Signature Homes, Ltd. v. Allen, 2018 WL 6331135 (Tex.App.—San Antonio Dec. 5, 2018, no pet.)

Awards & Recognition

BEST LAWYERS: ONES TO WATCH

Listed for Construction Law; Litigation – Construction; Product Liability Litigation
2022-2024

TEXAS SUPER LAWYERS - RISING STAR

Listed for Construction Litigation: Business
2021-2024

AUSTIN MONTHLY TOP ATTORNEYS

Listed for Construction
2020, 2023-2024

Related Services

Construction

Products Liability & Mass Torts

Professional Liability

Publications & Speaking Engagements

Concrete Cancer Claims: Managing the Spread in 2025

CLM Annual Conference

April 2025

Construction Defect Claims: Evaluating Expert Testimony & Considerations for Adjusters

Mock Deposition Expert Witness Training

April 2025

What Type of Expert Do I Need?

State Bar of Texas 38th Annual Construction Law Conference

San Antonio, TX

March 2025

Insurance Defense: Introduction to the Tripartite Relationship and Avoiding Conflicts of Interest

Strafford webinar

June 2024

I Hear You – Tips to Improve Communication between Carriers & Counsel in Case Preparation

Complex Claims & Litigation Forum

February 2024

Striking a Deal: The Art and Science of Settling Cases

State Bar of Texas Construction CLE

January 2024

Getting on the Same Page: Communication Strategies To Avoid Conflict in the Tripartite Relationship

Construction Claims Magazine, Fall 2023

Oct 12, 2023

Partnering with In-House Counsel on Insurance Defense Matters, co-author

LexisNexis Practical Guidance

September 2023

Partnering with In-House Counsel on Positioning Claims for Settlement

LexisNexis Practical Guidance

May 3, 2023

Design and Construction Defect Claims: Overview and Defense Strategies

LexisNexis

Nov 10, 2022

Discovery Strategies For Design And Construction Cases

Law360

November 2022

Watch Your Spec: Risk Management for Delegated Design

Austin Chapter of the Construction Specifiers Institute

May 12, 2021

Construction Litigation & Minimizing Liability Exposure

Education, Admissions & Activities

EDUCATION

Campbell University School of Law

J.D., cum laude, 2010

ABA National Moot Court Team

Law Review Comments Editor

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

B.A., Political Science and Psychology, 2006

BAR ADMISSIONS

Texas

2017

North Carolina

2010

COURT ADMISSIONS

United States District Court of North Carolina

Eastern, Middle, and Western

United States District Court of Texas

Eastern District

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Texas Advocacy Project

Volunteer Legal Line Attorney, 2019-2020

Austin Bar Association

Treasurer, Construction Section, 2024; Construction Law Section Council, 2022-2023

Austin Young Lawyers Association

Travis County Women Lawyers' Association

North Carolina Judicial District 3B Bar

Vice President, 2017; Secretary and Treasurer, 2016

Craven County Bar Association

President 2014-2015; Secretary and Treasurer, 2013-2014