



Matthew J. Kolodoski

Partner

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214-880-2808

Matthew Kolodoski is a litigation attorney who has successfully represented clients through all phases of trial and appellate proceedings in state and federal courts throughout Texas. His practice focuses primarily on the representation of insurance carriers in all aspects of insurance coverage and extra-contractual litigation.

Matthew's diverse experience includes successful litigation of complex insurance coverage actions involving bad faith claims handling disputes, loss of business income, duty to defend, and additional insured coverage. He also regularly advises and defends employee welfare benefit plans, insurers, and third-party administrators on accidental death and dismemberment ERISA claims.

After graduating from SMU Dedman School of Law, Matthew served as a law clerk for the Honorable Irma C. Ramirez on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division. Matthew is also active in the local and statewide legal communities. He currently serves on the State Bar of Texas Professionalism Committee and as a trustee of the Texas Supreme Court Historical Society. He previously served on the Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas and on the State Bar of Texas's Pattern Jury Charge Oversight Committee and as Chair of the Civil Liberties & Civil Rights Section of the State Bar of Texas. He is also a frequent speaker at legal seminars, where he speaks on a variety of litigation, insurance law, and constitutional law topics.

Representative Experience

Obtained dismissal of a \$1.6 million insurance coverage case based on a construction company's voluntary payment to a property owner prior to liability being established.

Tex. Dist. – Harris

Obtained dismissal and affirmance of dismissal of an accidental death ERISA claim under a plan's medical or surgical treatment exclusion.

5th Cir., S.D. Tex.

Obtained dismissal and affirmance of dismissal for lack of standing on a breach of contract claim arising from a force-placed insurance policy.

Tex. App. – Fort Worth; Tex. Dist. – Wise

Obtained dismissal of an accidental death ERISA claim under a plan's contractual limitations provision.

W.D. Tex.

Obtained dismissal of extra-contractual claims involving commercial property insurance following completion of appraisal

Tex. Dist. – Dallas

Obtained dismissal of breach of contract and quasi-contract claims brought by a crime scene decontamination company against an insurance company following denial of benefits to the deceased's estate.

Tex. Dist. – Montgomery

Litigated in numerous federal and state trial courts on behalf of insurance companies in cases involving weather-related catastrophe commercial and residential property claims, life insurance benefits, accidental death and dismemberment benefits, loss of business income, and additional insured coverage.

Handled examinations under oath for insurance companies in matters involving suspected arson or insurance fraud.

Drafted numerous coverage opinions for insurance carriers on issues involving construction defects litigation, personal injury litigation, and accidental death and dismemberment ERISA claims in various jurisdictions across the United States.

Awards & Recognition

BEST LAWYERS: ONES TO WATCH

Appellate Practice

2023-2025

D MAGAZINE: BEST LAWYERS UNDER 40

Listed for Insurance Law

2022-2024

TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

Board Certified in Insurance Law

TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

Board Certified in Consumer and Commercial Law

BEST LAWYERS: ONES TO WATCH

Listed for Insurance Law

2022-2023

TEXAS SUPER LAWYERS - RISING STAR

Listed for Insurance Coverage

2022-2023

DALLAS ASSOCIATION OF YOUNG LAWYERS (DAYL)

Leadership Class

2020

TEXAS BAR COLLEGE, STATE BAR OF TEXAS

Franklin Jones Best CLE Article Award

2018

TEXAS BAR FOUNDATION

Fellow

2018

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIVACY PROFESSIONAL (IAPP)

Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/ US)

2019

DAYL FOUNDATION

Life Fellow

2017

Related Services

Appellate Litigation

Business and Commercial

Insurance

Publications & Speaking Engagements

Four Years Later: The Impact of Texas Insurance Code Section 542A.006 on Insurance Litigation

Journal of Texas Insurance Law

May 4, 2022

The Fifth Circuit Significantly Expands the Interpretation of “Publication”

Aug 10, 2021

Exclusion to accidental death policy applies to patient's self-treatment – 5th Circuit

Westlaw Today

Apr 14, 2021

Basics of Insurance Appraisals

Insurance Law 101 Course, TexasBarCLE

2021

Ethical Use of Social Media by Attorneys

Thompson Coe webinar

2021

Texas Supreme Court and Fifth Circuit Update

Thompson Coe webinar

2021

The Due Process Limits of Personal Jurisdiction

15th Annual Bill of Rights Course, TexasBarCLE

2021

The Due Process Limits of Personal Jurisdiction

Annual Constitutional Law Symposium, State Bar of Wisconsin

2021

Understanding Insurance Claims and the Pandemic

19th Annual Advanced Business Law Course, TexasBarCLE

2021

Concurrent Causation Is Key In Texas Storm Insurance Suits

Law360

Dec 20, 2020

Texas Property Insurance Law Update

Thompson Coe webinar

2020

The Status of Takings Claims After Knick v. Township of Scott, Pennsylvania

14th Annual Bill of Rights Course, TexasBarCLE

2020

Property Insurers: Beware Getting Stuck In Texas State Court

Law360

May 17, 2019

Property Insurers: Beware Getting Stuck in Texas State Court

Law360

2019

The Future of Collective Employment Arbitration Part II: Apocalyptic Warnings, Lochnerizing, and the Right to Contract

24 Tex. J. C.L. & C.R. 1

2018

The Future of Collective Employment Arbitration: Reconciling the FAA with the NLRA, FLSA, and Other Federal Rights, 22 TEX. J. ON C.L. & C.R. 153 (2017)

May 1, 2017

The Future of Collective Employment Arbitration: Reconciling the FAA with the NLRA, FLSA, and Other Federal Rights

22 Tex. J. C.L. & C.R. 153

2017

U.S. Supreme Court Update, The College Bulletin, Texas Bar College (Fall 2015).

Nov 2, 2015

Bill Undermines ERISA by Voiding Plan Discretionary Clauses

Law 360

October 5, 2022

Education, Admissions & Activities

EDUCATION

Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law

J.D., 2013

University of Houston

B.S., 2010

BAR ADMISSIONS

Minnesota

2014

Texas

2013

COURT ADMISSIONS

United States Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit

United States District Court of Texas

Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

State Bar of Texas

Secretary/Treasurer of the Civil Liberties & Civil Rights Section, 2023-2024; Professionalism Committee, 2021-present; Section Representative, 2018-2021; Pattern Jury Charge Oversight Committee, 2018-2021; Civil Liberties & Civil Rights Section: Chair, 2021-2022, 2016-2017; Secretary/Treasurer, 2019-2020, 2015-2016; Insurance Law Section, Consumer and Commercial Law Section

Dallas Association of Young Lawyers

Dallas Bar Association

The Texas Supreme Court Historical Society

Scribes - The American Society of Legal Writers

William "Mac" Taylor American Inn of Court

Vice-Chair, Programming Committee, 2021-present; Barrister, 2019-present; Associate member, 2015-2019

Texas Bar College

State Bar of Texas

Pro Bono College