

Christopher H. "Chris" Robertson

Senior Counsel

PRACTICE EMPHASIS:

Real Estate Litigation; Business Litigation; Fiduciary Litigation

EDUCATION:

J.D., *cum laude*, South Texas College of Law, 2018
Articles Editor, *South Texas Law Review*
Order of Barristers, Order of Scribes
B.S., Texas A&M University, 2012

ADMITTED:

State Bar of Texas

COURT ADMISSIONS:

U.S. District Court, Southern, Eastern and
Western Districts of Texas



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Profile:

Christopher Robertson is a member of the firm's real estate litigation practice group, whose practice centers on high stakes real estate and infrastructure litigation, with a particular emphasis on eminent domain and condemnation. He has experience representing municipalities, transportation authorities, common carrier pipelines, gas utilities, electric utilities, navigation districts, special districts, and private landowners in all phases of condemnation litigation, from project inception through trial and appeal.

Christopher has served as trial counsel in multiple jury trials involving property rights, business torts, and commercial disputes, and he regularly advises clients navigating large scale infrastructure projects. His experience also includes trade secret, employment, media, defamation, and general commercial litigation matters.

Before joining the firm, Christopher practiced at a regional firm, handling business litigation with a focus on eminent domain. He served as a judicial intern in law school to the Honorable Lynn N. Hughes of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

Affiliations:

State Bar of Texas, Real Estate Section
Houston Bar Association, Real Estate Section
Houston Young Lawyers Association (Leadership Academy 2023-2024)
International Right of Way Association
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo

Professional Recognition:

Texas Bar Foundation, Life Fellow

Representative Experience:

- Advised regional transit authorities in connection with a major metropolitan rail expansion program, including the acquisition of right of way for light rail and commuter rail corridors
- Represented a municipality in connection with land acquisition for a state highway expansion project
- Represented a municipality in connection with land acquisition for a federally partnered flood risk management project involving the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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Representative Experience (Cont'd)

- Represented and counseled private and public entities with eminent domain authority, including pipelines, electric and gas utilities, railroads, navigation districts, transportation authorities, state agencies, and various special districts, in acquiring thousands of miles of right of way and fee simple interests to support large scale infrastructure projects
- Advised regional transit authorities in connection with a metropolitan rail expansion initiative involving the acquisition of right of way for light rail and commuter rail systems
- Represented a state transportation agency in condemnation proceedings across multiple districts involving roadway and mobility improvement projects
- Represented a navigation district in connection with the acquisition of right of way for a rail infrastructure project supporting port related operations
- Represented a nonprofit historical preservation organization and advising municipal and state land management agencies in connection with the acquisition of property for a major cultural heritage redevelopment initiative
- Represented a municipality in acquiring a terminal leasehold estate as part of a major airport expansion and development program, including successfully defeating a federal action seeking to enjoin the project
- Represented a municipality in connection with land acquisition for a state administered disaster recovery buyout program targeting high risk flood prone areas
- Represented an electric utility provider as eminent domain, litigation, and transactional counsel in connection with the construction of a new electric substation facility
- Represented a common carrier pipeline in connection with the construction of a 509 mile crude oil and condensate pipeline across multiple Texas counties
- Represented a common carrier pipeline in connection with a major marine terminal project involving approximately 65 miles of onshore pipeline right of way
- Represented a common carrier pipeline in connection with the construction of a 504 mile natural gas liquids pipeline across multiple Texas counties
- Represented a common carrier pipeline in connection with the construction of an 83 mile crude petroleum pipeline
- Represented landowners challenging the routing of a high-voltage transmission line through before the Public Utility Commission of Texas
- Represented private wealth manager in a bad faith claim of trade secret misappropriation
- Represented seventeen employees in breach of covenant to not compete and trade secret misappropriation lawsuit against former employer
- Represented homeowners' association against claims of race discrimination
- Represented business partners in a breach of settlement agreement business divorce against departing shareholders
- Represented major commercial landlords in actions to enforce or defend the application and interpretation of commercial leases

Speeches and Publications:

"Houston Appeals Court Reminds Employers Why They Should Review the Enforceability of Their Non-Compete Agreements with Employees," Winstead PC, The Employer Law Resource Blog (Aug. 3, 2021)

"Denbury Green II: No Naked Assertions Enable Eminent Domain," The Harry Reed Inst. of Oil & Gas at STCL Energy Newsletter 10 (Spring 2017); Co-Author