



Megan R. Kateff

ATTORNEY

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PRACTICE AREAS

Construction Disputes

EDUCATION

J.D., Texas Tech University School of Law (2015)

B.A., University of Michigan (2011)

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Supreme Court of Texas

Admitted to U.S. District Courts for the Western, Eastern, Northern, and Southern Districts of Texas



In construction disputes, the hallmark of Megan's approach is her **extraordinary attention to detail**.

OVERVIEW

If what happens in the courtroom, or at settlement, is a gleaming Tesla, it's not going anywhere without the charge that makes the wheels turn. Megan Kateff is that charge. Litigation is always propelled by the thorough, careful development of facts, arguments, and strategy. This is where Megan excels.

An experienced construction lawyer, Megan helps clients in every part of the commercial construction industry navigate disputes connected with their projects. These can involve anything from construction- and design-defect disputes to payment claims, lien and bond issues, and project closeout.

In every matter, her objective is twofold—to resolve the issue with the best possible terms, and to get it over with. Although formal litigation is not the only option for dispute resolution (nobody wants to be in court!), Megan can initiate or defend a lawsuit, including handling appeals. She's an aggressive, effective litigator when the situation calls for it.

But whether overseeing a lawsuit or navigating a more informal

legal dispute, the hallmark of Megan's approach to construction law is her extraordinary attention to detail. In every facet of her work, she strives for completeness, accuracy, and thoroughness—an investment of time and effort aimed at delivering the best returns possible.

She will, for example, strive to extract vastly more from documents than many construction lawyers. She never assumes anything and is relentless about confirming that the law she relies on is current and on point. As a practice, she personally researches and validates everything that she possibly can. And she's a particularly prudent, accurate, and effective legal writer, whether she's drafting an email to opposing counsel, a brief, or a motion.

Thanks to both her focus on writing and exceptional attention to detail, Megan is especially gifted at the often underestimated but strategically critical area of motion practice. In litigation, effective motion practice frequently shapes the case and can accomplish major strategic victories. It requires a combination of top-level legal thinking and effective, clear writing. Megan delivers both consistently, which gives her clients a major competitive advantage.

Megan is also an exceptionally collaborative advocate. She likes to make sure her clients are part of strategy discussions and decisions, and that they're comfortable with them, whether it's their first lawsuit or their twentieth.

In her spare time, Megan likes to slalom waterski, try new restaurants around Austin, and spend time with family and friends. Born and raised in Michigan, she was an internationally competitive figure skater in high school and for the University of Michigan.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represented contractor in construction-defect dispute with owner and obtained defense-arbitration award.
- Represented subcontractor in construction-defect dispute with contractor through arbitration.
- Represented contractor in payment and construction-defect dispute with municipality through settlement.
- Won jury and directed verdicts in favor of general contractor on breach-of-contract and quantum meruit claims arising out of a multi-family project.
- Litigated \$45M dispute for EPC contractor involving solar project in West Texas.
- Represented general contractor through several large six- and seven-figure closeout and payment disputes, securing settlements with owners and subcontractors.

- Represented subcontractor in dispute with insurers to secure seven-figure settlement for alleged construction defects.
- Represented general contractor in dispute with insurer over amount of coverage under commercial general liability policy, ultimately resulting in settlement of entire dispute within policy limits.

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- Causes of Action in Texas Construction Law
Place: State Bar of Texas Basic Course in Texas Construction Law (December 2018)

INDUSTRY INVOLVEMENT

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- State Bar of Texas, Construction Law Section | Member (2015-Present)
- State Bar of Texas, Appellate Law Section | Member (2018-Present)
- Austin Bar Association, Construction Law Section | Member (2015-Present)
- Austin Bar Association, Austin Young Lawyers Association | Member (2015-Present)
- Urban Land Institute | Member (Present); Impact Awards Committee Member (2019)
- I Live Here I Give Here | BIG Give Committee Member (2018-2019)
- Travis County Women Lawyers Association | Member (2017-Present)

AWARDS

- National Order of Scribes, an honorary organization to recognize up to five law students per graduating class who excel in legal writing
- Overall Outstanding Student Article, award for the best student article published in Vol. 46 of the *Texas Tech Law Review*
- M. Penn L. Award, presented to the best-researched and -summed articles published in Vol. 46 of the *Texas Tech Law Review*
- Received the Davis, Gerald, and Cremer Scribes Award, presented to a third-year member of the *Texas Tech Law Review* who demonstrates outstanding abilities in writing and editing