



Krisina Zuñiga

Associate

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Overview

Krisina Zuñiga successfully represents plaintiffs and defendants in all types of commercial litigation, including patent, trade secret, antitrust, class action, insurance, fraud, and breach of contract suits.

Krisina plays a central role in all her cases. She has opened at trial, direct and cross-examined witnesses at trial, taken and defended numerous critical depositions, and argued dispositive and non-dispositive motions alike, including claim construction positions that resulted in favorable constructions in several plaintiff-side patent infringement cases. You can read transcripts of two such arguments [here](#) and [here](#).

Krisina has been recognized by the American Bar Association as one of the nation's [Top 40 Lawyers Under 40](#) (2021), by *Texas Lawyer* as one of fewer than 30 lawyers "On the Rise" ([2021](#) and [2022](#)), by *Super Lawyers* as a "Rising Star" ([2022](#), [2023](#)), and by *Bloomberg Law* as an "[Intellectual Property Fresh Face](#)" (2020). In addition, in 2023, *National Law Journal* recognized her as a [Rising Star of the Plaintiff's Bar](#) as part of their Elite Trial Lawyers series.

Some of Krisina's most notable matters and wins include:

- ***Diamondback Industries, Inc. v. Repeat Precision, LLC, et al.*** Krisina, along with colleagues Trey Peacock and Shawn Raymond, and co-counsel, secured a nearly [\\$40 million judgment for Repeat Precision, LLC](#), the defendant in a case brought by Diamondback Industries in federal court in Waco, Texas. The case involved claims of patent infringement, antitrust violations, theft of trade secrets, breach of contract, and tortious interference. After a three-day bench trial, the court dismissed with prejudice all of Diamondback's affirmative claims and awarded Repeat Precision \$39,946,902 in actual, enhanced, and punitive damages (not including attorneys' fees and costs) for its counterclaims. During trial, Krisina presented Repeat Precision's president, an examination the Court described as "virtually perfect." Krisina's role was highlighted in coverage of the trial win by [Texas Lawyer](#) and [The Texas Lawbook](#) (subscriptions required). You can read Krisina's direct examination of Repeat Precision's president and the Court's comment [here](#). Repeat Precision settled this case in late 2020 for more than \$25 million in cash payments and also received other business considerations. Krisina continues to represent Repeat Precision in patent litigation.
- ***Power Rental Solutions, LLC v. Henco Energy-Rick Hendrix Energy, LLC, et al.*** Krisina represented Caterpillar (or "Cat") dealer Power Rental Solutions (PRS) in a breach of contract, breach of warranty, and fraudulent inducement dispute involving alter ego allegations and the sale of three trailer-mounted, mobile power generation units. In 2022, the Honorable Fredericka Phillips of the 61st Civil Court of Harris County granted in full PRS's traditional motion for summary judgment against the defendants on all claims and awarded PRS \$4,920,368.20 in damages, along with attorneys' fees and costs that the court had awarded PRS during the dispute, including fees that the court awarded as a result of two TRCP 91a motions to

dismiss that Krisina defeated.

- ***Gulf Shore Anesthesia Associates v. Christus Spohn Health System Corp.*** Krisina prosecuted claims of fraud, fraudulent inducement, breach of contract, and trade secret misappropriation on behalf of anesthesiology group Gulf Shore Anesthesia Associates against Corpus Christi-based Christus Spohn Health System, a case involving an assertion of over \$47 million in damages. Krisina played a key role in the case, including winning a motion to compel against Spohn's claim of a medical committee privilege in a virtual hearing in front of the Honorable Mark H. Woerner of the County Court at Law No. 4 of Nueces County, Texas. You can read a full transcript of Krisina's argument [here](#). The parties resolved the claims before trial.
- ***Advance Trust & Life Escrow Services, LTA v. ReliaStar Life Insurance Co.*** Krisina represents a class of universal life insurance policyholders against ReliaStar Life Insurance Company stemming from ReliaStar's failure to charge cost of insurance rates in accordance with the terms of its policies. In 2020, after the discovery of an additional contractual breach by ReliaStar, Krisina argued a motion for leave to amend Advance Trust's complaint in a virtual hearing in front of the Honorable Elizabeth Cowan Wright of the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota. After a lengthy hearing, and in a detailed opinion, Judge Wright granted the motion. You can read a full transcript of Krisina's argument [here](#) and the Court's opinion [here](#). Two years later, the court denied a summary judgment motion filed by ReliaStar and opposed by Krisina and the Susman Godfrey team and simultaneously granted class certification.

Krisina is deeply committed to pro bono work. Some of her work in this area includes:

- participating in a historic case taken on by the firm challenging Harris County's bail system (see coverage of the case from [The New York Times](#), [The Houston Chronicle](#), and [Lawdragon](#));
- bringing a suit on sworn account on behalf of a small business owner for unpaid fees through Susman Godfrey's Minority Owned Business (MOBUS) program, in partnership with the University of Houston's Stimulating Urban Renewal through Entrepreneurship (SURE) program;
- representing through a referral from Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) two undocumented minor siblings who arrived in the United States unaccompanied and were seeking legal guardianship; and
- volunteering with the South Texas Pro Bono Asylum Representation Project (ProBAR) to provide intake services for detained children along the border.

Krisina is also active in the Houston legal community and currently serves as a vice chair of the [Houston Bar Foundation](#) (HBF) and as a director of the [Hispanic Bar Association of Houston](#) (HisBA). From 2020-2021, Krisina served as the president of the [Houston Young Lawyers Association](#) (HYLA). During her bar year, HYLA created a podcast called "[Hylights](#)," on which she was interviewed about her career path and leadership of the organization. Listen [here](#).

Krisina joined Susman Godfrey after clerking for the Honorable Diana Saldaña of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas in her hometown of Laredo, Texas, and the Honorable Jennifer Walker Elrod of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Krisina earned her J.D. from Stanford Law School after graduating *summa cum laude* with a B.A. from Rice University. Krisina speaks Spanish ([ILR Level 3](#)).

Education

Stanford Law School (J.D., 2015)

Rice University (B.A., Philosophy and Policy Studies, *summa cum laude*, 2012)

Clerkship

The Honorable Jennifer Walker Elrod, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

The Honorable Diana Saldaña, United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas

Honors and Distinctions

- Rising Star of the Plaintiff's Bar, *National Law Journal* ([2023](#), ALM)
- On the Rise, *Texas Lawyer* ([2021](#), [2022](#), ALM)
- Rising Star, *Texas Super Lawyers* ([2022](#), [2023](#) Thomson Reuters)
- [On The Rise: One of the Nation's Top 40 Lawyers Under 40](#), American Bar Association (2021)
- ["They've Got Next: Intellectual Property Fresh Face,"](#) *Bloomberg Law* (2020)
- *Pro Bono* Distinction, Stanford Law School
- Articles Editor, Stanford Law Review
- Phi Beta Kappa

Leadership and Professional Memberships



- Co-Vice Chair, Houston Bar Foundation
- Director, Hispanic Bar Association of Houston (HisBA)
- [Fellow](#), Texas Bar Foundation
- Director, Houston Bar Foundation
- [Fellow](#), Houston Bar Foundation
- [Past President](#), Houston Young Lawyers Association (HYLA). HYLA won several awards from the [Texas Young Lawyers Association](#) and the [American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division](#) during Krisina's tenure as president including:
 - Comprehensive Award, First Place (Large City)
 - Single Project: Service to the Bar (Rallying Around Recent Grads)
 - Single Project: Service to the Public (Days—Even a Whole Week—of Service)
 - Single Project: Diversity (Amplifying Diverse Voices)
 - Outstanding Single Project: Service to the Bar (Rallying Around Recent Grads)
 - Service to the Public Award, First Place (Large City)
 - Diversity Award, First Place (Large City)

- Service to the Bar Award, Second Place (Large City)
- Past Treasurer, Houston Young Lawyers Association
- Past Director, Houston Young Lawyers Association
- Fellow, Houston Young Lawyers Foundation
- Houston Young Lawyers Association
- Houston Bar Association
- American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division

Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas
- State Bar of Texas

Languages

- Spanish ([ILR Level 3](#))