



## Laranda Walker Partner

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### Overview

Laranda Walker represents both plaintiffs and defendants in complex commercial litigation in federal and state courts across the United States. She is experienced in every aspect and stage of litigation – through case inception to discovery to trial prep to trial, arbitration or settlement. A trusted litigator, Ms. Walker understands when a case should be pushed through to trial or when a negotiated settlement is in her client's best interest.

Ms. Walker regularly represents some of the world's largest companies and industry leaders—such as Chevron and Texas Brine. She has also won significant victories for small businesses and individuals. Ms. Walker is well-versed in litigating all types of commercial matters, including Energy and Environmental, Business Disputes and Real Estate cases. She also has in-depth experience in qui-tam cases.

Some of Ms. Walker's most recent and notable matters include:

- ***Rebellion Energy v. Liberty Resources***, where she helped secure a significant win for Liberty Resources when the Texas Court of Appeals for the First District ruled that Liberty would not be forced to arbitrate a dispute over a bill in its \$106 million energy deal with Rebellion Energy. Read more about the case in Law360's coverage [here](#) (subscription required).
- ***Warmack et al. v. Alight***, where she represented real estate developer and owner, Warmack, against its tenant, Alight, in a dispute relating to properties in Texas and Florida. The case settled for confidential terms just days before Ms. Walker was set to serve as second chair and give opening statements in jury trial in the Southern District of Texas.
- ***Poarch v. Norman Regional Hospital Authority***, where she was second chair in a breach of contract and breach of duty trial. Having been asked to join the trial just two months earlier, at trial Ms. Walker delivered both opening and closing statements, direct-examined one witness and cross-examined two of the opposing side's witnesses.
- ***Woods v. CQuentia***, where she represents a healthcare sales executive against genetic testing and diagnostics company CQuentia NGS, its CEO, and related entities
- ***Linde Engineering v. Crestwood Midstream***, where she represents Houston-based Linde Engineering as plaintiff in a \$55+ million construction dispute with Crestwood Midstream. The Texas-state-court dispute involves Crestwood's refusal to pay Linde's invoices in connection with construction of a \$100+ million gas plant in North Dakota.
- **Chevron Corporation Litigation.**
  - ***State of Louisiana and Louisiana Parishes v. Chevron***, where she is defending Chevron in more than forty lawsuits relating to the loss of marsh land in Louisiana filed by Louisiana Parishes and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.

- ***Jeanerette Lumber and Shingle (JLS) v. Chevron***, where she is representing Chevron in several environmental matters related to damaged property allegedly from oil and gas operations. The matters are pending in Louisiana State Court.
- ***Chevron Climate Change Litigation***, where she represented Chevron Corporation in numerous and ongoing Global Climate Change lawsuits across the country, in which cities, states, and counties allege that Chevron and other major oil and gas companies should be held liable for the production and promotion of fossil fuels.
- ***Texas Brine Sinkhole Litigation***, where she represented Texas Brine Corporation in multiple lawsuits relating to the Bayou Corne sinkhole that formed in Louisiana in 2012. This case involves complex technical and environmental issues surrounding the collapse of a salt dome.

In addition to her active docket, Ms. Walker is a regular visitor and mentor to students in the Thurgood Marshall Legal Society at the University of Texas School of Law where she is trusted role model and depended-upon resource to some of the law school's top students. In 2020 Ms. Walker was selected as a member of the Institute for Energy Law's 2020-2021 Leadership Class.

Before joining Susman Godfrey, Ms. Walker practiced commercial litigation at Phelps Dunbar, LLP in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A Mississippi native, Ms. Walker worked several years as a news anchor/reporter for stations in Columbus, Mississippi, and Baton Rouge before attending law school.

## Education

- Louisiana State University, J.D./B.C.L., 2007
- Mississippi State University, B.A., 2002

## Clerkship

Law Clerk to the Honorable Gregg Costa, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, 2016

## Honors and Distinctions

- Named a "Texas Rising Star" by Super Lawyers (2016, 2018, 2019, 2020; Thomson Reuters). Rising Stars lists are comprised of the top 2.5% of attorneys under 40 in each state annually and are based upon peer nominations, independent research, and peer evaluation.
- Named a "Louisiana Rising Star" by Super Lawyers (Thomson Reuters, 2013, 2014)
- Recipient of the 2015 Louisiana State Bar Association Michaelle Pitard Wynne Professionalism Award
- 2010-2011 Leadership LSBA Class
- National Moot Court Team, 2005-2006, Region VII Champions, Top 16 Finalists in National Competition
- Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, 2007, Honorable Mention for Individual Best Advocate
- National Trial Team, 2005-2006
- Robert Lee Tullis Moot Court Competition: Winner, Best Oralist, Best Brief
- President, 2006 LSU Trial Advocacy Board
- Member, 2006 LSU Moot Court Board

- Best Novice Advocate, Ira S. Flory Trials, Spring 2006

## Professional Associations and Memberships

- Louisiana State Bar
- Texas State Bar