



SAMANTHA TRAHAN

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Samantha counsels clients on ways to enhance their contracting practices and existing insurance programs. These steps are taken to minimize risks, but when accidents happen or contracting parties disagree, Samantha manages all aspects of the resulting litigation. With over a decade of experience, she handles nearly any type of dispute, but focuses on insurance and contract issues.

Insurance

On the business side, Samantha evaluates general liability, property, professional liability, energy, and other policies to confirm coverage is available for potential risks. After losses occur, she prepares coverage opinions, manages claims, and litigates disputed coverage issues. Samantha has helped policyholders through losses from hurricanes, fires, long-tail asbestos exposure, down-hole well problems, and more.

Contracts

Samantha helps clients negotiate MSAs and job-specific contracts. She also provides client-focused training on indemnity and insurance issues to strengthen in-house contracting practices. Samantha has resolved third-party beneficiary claims, contractual indemnity pass-through actions, challenges to agreements under state anti-indemnity acts, and complex choice of law arguments.

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin, 2000, J.D., with honors

University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas, 1997, B.S., *cum laude*

LICENSURE AND BAR ADMISSIONS

State Bar of Texas, admitted to Texas state courts since 2000

Admitted to United States District Court, Southern, Northern, and Eastern Districts of Texas

Admitted to United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

RECOGNITION

Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in Insurance Law, 2010-2016

Thomson Reuters: Super Lawyers in Insurance Law, 2015-2017

Thomson Reuters: Super Lawyers Rising Star, 2006, 2008-2015

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PRESENTATIONS & PAPERS

INSURANCE

Current Insurance and Indemnity Issues –
Gardere Oilfield Services panel discussion, 2015.

So Your Platform Disappeared in the Hurricane –
University of Texas Admiralty and Maritime Law Conference, 2008.

The Business of Risk: How to Get the Most out of Your Insurance Policies –
Houston and Dallas, 2006.

The Rising Price of Declining Coverage in the Construction Industry –
Mealey's™ 4th Annual Advanced Insurance Coverage Conference: Top 10 Issues, 2006.

Hot Insurance Cases Before Texas Appellate Courts –
Annual Texas Insurance Law Symposium, January 2004.

Maximizing Insurance Coverage for Pre-Suit Settlements of Construction Defect Claims –
Published in Special Construction Coverage Issue of the Journal of Texas Insurance Law, 2004.

LITIGATION

Indemnity issues in the oil and gas industry – PETEX “Rig School,” 2008–2012.

Offshore Oil and Gas Contracting with paper Indemnity Agreements, Old Issues/New Cases –
University of Texas Admiralty and Maritime Law Conference, 2009.

Contractual Limitations in Oilfield Agreements (a comparison of US and UK law) – Houston,
2007.

Beyond Validity – The Expansion and Erosion of Indemnity Agreements – Gardere Evolving
Issues in the Oilfield Service Industry Seminar, November 16, 2005.

GENERAL

Effective Goal Setting – Presentation to corporate Women's Guild, November 2014.

Ethical Rules Applied to Contracts and Settlement Negotiations – Association of Corporate
Counsel, Houston Chapter, November 2012.