



Nikki Lapine

Associate

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Houston, TX – 713.353.2060

Nikki Lapine focuses primarily on defending employers and companies in employment and labor law matters and litigation. She also has extensive experience representing individuals and businesses in a wide array of matters related to insurance defense, including insurance coverage disputes and the defense of claims involving complex torts, commercial liability, and premises liability in state and federal courts.

Prior to first joining Wilson Elser, Nikki worked at a premier Houston-based civil defense firm, where she handled a sizable personal injury caseload and litigated numerous insurance defense matters. Before rejoining Wilson Elser, Nikki gained valuable in-house experience as a contracts manager and attorney at one of the nation's largest, most well-respected companies providing electrical, plumbing, and HVAC installation services.

Employment & Labor

Nikki has experience handling cases with claims brought under Title VII, FMLA, ADA, FLSA, 42 U.S.C. §1981, ERISA, and state law fair employment practices statutes.

Life, Health, Disability & ERISA

Nikki represents insurers primarily in federal court litigation involving ERISA and non-ERISA disputes over disability and life coverage. Her experience as a licensed Texas insurance agent provides her with a unique insight into assessing clients' liabilities and exposure, enabling her to craft effective defense strategies.

Complex Tort & General Casualty

Nikki is well versed in effectively handling complex tort and insurance claim disputes before state and federal courts across Texas. She has extensive motion practice, deposition, mediation, and trial assistance experience.

Services

- Employment & Labor
- Life, Health, Disability & ERISA
- Complex Tort & General Casualty

Education

- South Texas College of Law (J.D., *cum laude*, 2018)
 - Transactional Law Practice Certificate
 - President, Jewish Law Students Association
 - CALI Excellence for the Future Awards: State and Local Government, Contract Building Blocks
- The Ohio State University (B.S. Hospitality Management, 2011)
 - business-focused curriculum

Bar Admissions

- Texas

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas

Professional Affiliations

- Texas Bar Foundation Fellow
- Insurance Law Section of the State Bar of Texas

Representative Matters

Obtained summary judgments and dismissal of actions in state courts covering various negligence claims and statute of limitations issues, including affirmation of summary judgment from the Fourteenth Court of Appeals of Texas.

Obtained favorable commercial coverage declaratory judgment action ruling in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas.