



Heather L. Winkles
Associate

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South Texas College of Law
(J.D., 2015)

The University of Texas at
Austin (B.A., 2010)

Practice Areas

- Wills, Probate, Estate Planning & Litigation
- Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights
- Civil Litigation
- Banking and Financial Institution Litigation
- Business & Commercial Litigation

Heather L. Winkles is an attorney in the Dallas office of Godwin, Bowman PC. Her practice includes estate planning, creditors' rights, and formation of business organizations. Heather is also a court-appointed mediator.

In the area of estate planning, Ms. Winkles' focus is on the strategic protection and transfer of her client's wealth from a basic single person or married couple estate plan to sophisticated trusts and family limited partnerships. Steps in this process may include anything from drafting an estate plan from conception to review of an existing estate plan.

Ms. Winkles' work in the creditors' rights field encompasses efficient collateral recovery via sequestration to facilitate the collection of defaulted loans; contesting mechanics' and storage liens, fraud and conversion for recovery of collateral; declaring lienholders' interest in state and federal forfeiture/seizure proceedings to prevent loss of collateral; domestication of foreign judgments for enforcement; defending creditors from alleged violations of a sundry of state and federal consumer law; collection of unsecured business debts; uncover hidden assets by post-judgment depositions; creditor claims in probate proceedings; and creditor claims, motions for relief from the automatic stay and objections to confirmation in bankruptcy proceedings.

In working with business organizations, Heather's initial goal for her clients is to ensure that the correct legal entity is chosen to structure the business for successful operation and protection from liability. This includes drafting and review of operating agreements, trademarks, and other documents necessary for the operation of a successful business.

Heather received her Doctor of Jurisprudence from the South Texas College of Law, following her Bachelor of Arts in Government degree from The University of Texas at Austin. While at UT, she also earned a Business Foundations Program Certificate from the Red McCombs School of Business. Heather holds both a mediation certificate and an advanced family law mediation certificate, enabling her to act as a mediator in both civil and family law matters.

Heather's extensive educational background includes a post as Judicial Intern for the 311th Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas. Highly honored, she was ranked on the Dean's Honor List, was a finalist in mock trial competitions, and earned the CALI Award for Excellence, ranking highest in her class in the area of legal ethics. She was also a Member of the CURRENTS: International Trade Law Journal.

Additionally, Heather studied at the Irish Centre for Human Rights at the National University of Ireland at Galway, where she took direct instruction from the late United States Supreme Court Justice, Antonin Scalia. As a law student of Justice Scalia, she learned to unveil the frequent legal arguments that the late Justice said, "will come before the Court clad, so to speak, in sheep's clothing" and to vehemently advocate when the, "wolf comes as a wolf."

Admissions

- Texas State Courts
- United States District Court - Northern District of Texas

Legal Memberships

- Dallas Bar Association
- Dallas Association of Young Lawyers
- State Bar of Texas

Community

- Dallas Regional Chamber of Commerce