



Julia Gandara Simonet

Member

Houston

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Julia's practice involves all aspects of complex litigation, including contractual disputes, real property, construction matters, fraud, personal injury and wrongful death, products liability, and premises liability. She has also represented financial services clients in both state and federal court.

She represents a diverse set of individuals and commercial entities, including contractors, railroads, trucking companies, hospitality establishments/hotels, restaurants, manufacturers, franchisees, landowners, and energy companies. She advises clients on litigation avoidance, arbitration, implementation of policies and remedial actions, as well as the development of compliance protocols. She is a member of several national teams of litigators representing clients in Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA) litigation, liquor liability (DRAM shop) litigation, and trucking and fleet litigation. Additionally, Julia has represented project owners, contractors, and design professionals in all stages of litigation.

Julia spent her first two years at Cozen O'Connor in the Global Insurance Department, developing knowledge of coverage and indemnity issues related to construction contracts, including anti-indemnity statutes. She received her J.D. from South Texas College of Law and her Bachelor of Arts in government from the University of Texas. In law school, Julia was a senior Langdell Scholar and received CALI awards in employment benefits law and insurance law. She was one of 12 graduate students selected for the Houston-Galveston Schweitzer Fellows Program, a one-year interdisciplinary fellowship program focused on health-related community service and leadership development.

Prior to attending law school, Julia worked for several years at NASA Johnson Space Center in the Crew and Thermal Systems Division, developing complex analytical skills by performing evaluations of crew equipment for spacecraft and the International Space Station.

Practice Areas

- Commercial Litigation
- Financial Services
- Privacy Litigation – Emerging Trends

Education

- South Texas College of Law, J.D., 2014
- University of Texas–Austin, B.A., 2011

Bar Admissions

- Texas

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court -- Southern District of Texas

Affiliations

Fellow, Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, 2023

Awards & Honors

- Best Lawyers in America "Ones to Watch" 2021, 2022

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