



Shelby L. O'Brien Member

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Shelby O'Brien is a Board Certified Civil Appellate attorney who litigates at the trial and appellate levels. Insight she gained as a staff attorney for the Texas Supreme Court now enables her to better serve clients in their disputes before the courts. As a former attorney for the Texas Legislative Council, Shelby also assists clients in policy matters by researching and drafting legislation and legislative memoranda.

Professional Experience

- Represents businesses and trade associations in lawsuits against the State of Texas and local governments in state and federal courts, including challenges to administrative rules, statutes, and ordinances
- Represents businesses and individuals in commercial and other business disputes in state and federal courts
- Represents clients in all aspects of pretrial preparation and trial, including depositions, discovery, motion practice, mediation, and first chairing bench and jury trials
- Represents clients in appellate matters before the Texas Supreme Court and state and federal courts of appeals
- Represents businesses and individuals before the State Office of Administrative Hearings
- Researches and drafts legislation and legislative memoranda to support clients before the Legislature

Professional & Community Activities

- State Bar of Texas
 - Administrative & Public Law Section
 - Appellate Section
 - Litigation Section

Practice Areas

- Appellate
- Employment
- Legislative Advocacy
- Litigation
- Regulatory Compliance
- Regulatory Litigation

Awards & Recognitions

- Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, 2016-present
- Austin Monthly, Top Appellate Lawyer, 2020-present
- Best Lawyers in America, Appellate Practice, 2022-present
- Texas Super Lawyers, Appellate Law, 2022-present

Education

- University of Texas School of Law, Austin, Texas
 - J.D., with Honors
 - Dean's Achievement Awards for Highest Grades in Constitutional Law I and Texas Criminal Procedure
 - Recipient of Robert S. Strauss Endowed Presidential Scholarship in Law
 - Board of Advocates
- University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland
 - B.A., English Literature
 - University and English Honors Programs

Admissions

- Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Eastern, Northern, Southern, and Western Districts of Texas



- Austin Bar Association
 - Director (2022-present)
 - Civil Appellate Section, Member
 - Chair (2021-2022)
 - Chair-Elect (2020-2021)
 - Secretary-Treasurer (2019-2020)
 - Governing Council (2017-2019)
 - Civil Litigation and Administrative Law Sections, Member
- American Bar Association
 - Litigation Section
 - Lawyers Conference Division
- Travis County Women Lawyers' Association, Member (2013-present)
 - Immediate Past-President (2021-2022)
 - President (2020-2021)
 - President-Elect (2019-2020)
 - Board of Directors (2017-2019)
- Travis County Women Lawyers' Foundation
 - Immediate Past-Chair (2022-2023)
 - Chair (2021-2022)
 - Board of Directors (2019-2021)
 - Fellow (2016-present)
- Robert W. Calvert Inn of Court, Membership Co-Chair
- Austin Court of Appeals Pro Bono Pilot Committee, Member (2016-2019)
- Texas Bar Foundation, Fellow (2018-present)