

KELLY HART

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

JOSEPH D. AUSTIN Associate

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Fort Worth



BIOGRAPHY

Joseph Austin is an associate in the Fort Worth office's Litigation section. Mr. Austin represents corporate and individual clients in state and federal courts involving complex commercial disputes and bankruptcy matters. His experience includes all stages of litigation, from pleadings through discovery, motion practice, and contested hearings.

Prior to joining Kelly Hart, Mr. Austin was a litigation associate at Padfield & Stout LLP in Fort Worth, Texas, where he gained valuable experience representing clients in a variety of commercial and bankruptcy litigation matters.

Mr. Austin has been recognized as a Texas Super Lawyer Rising Star by Thomson Reuters since 2019. In addition to his professional service, Mr. Austin fulfills his commitment to the community through his service on the Board of Directors of Cancer Care Services. Mr. Austin is also actively involved in the Tarrant County Bar Association, the Tarrant County Young Lawyers Association, DFW Association of Young Bankruptcy Lawyers, and Bankruptcy Law Section Young Lawyers Committee.

EXPERIENCE AND HIGHLIGHTS

Represented clients in a variety of commercial and bankruptcy litigation matters, including:

- Successfully led a 3-day injunction trial regarding importation of UTV s from China, including preparation of oral briefs, delivery of opening and closing statements, handling direct testimony for witnesses, and cross-examining
- Obtained favorable nondischargeable judgment for client through motion for summary judgment in adversary proceeding, permitting client to pursue \$1,085,150 debt
- Counseled secured creditors in all aspects of Chapter 7, 11, 12, and 13 bankruptcy filings including drafting of pleadings and handling of contested hearings

AFFILIATIONS AND HONORS

- Texas Super Lawyer Rising Star, Thomson Reuters, 2019-2021

EDUCATION

- Texas Tech University School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2016
 - Board of Barristers, Vice-Chair of Appellate Advocacy, 2015-2016
- Abilene Christian University, B.B.A., *cum laude*, 2013
 - University Honors

ADMISSIONS

- State Bar of New Mexico
- State Bar of Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, New Mexico
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas

SPEECHES & PUBLICATIONS

- Speaker, "Automatic Stay in Light of City of Chicago v. Fulton," Bankruptcy Bench Bar Conference, April 2021
- Cross-Collateralization and a Debtor's options under Section 1325(a)(5), American Bankruptcy Institute, January 2019
- Speaker, "Bankruptcy 101," El Paso Bar Association, 2018