



## KRISTI L. KAUTZ

Partner

[kristi.kautz@fletcherfarley.com](mailto:kristi.kautz@fletcherfarley.com)

Dallas, Texas

T: 214.987.9600

F: 214.987.9866

Kristi Kautz has been called an “excellent advocate for her client” by opposing counsel and considers this to be one of the best compliments any attorney can receive. Throughout her career she has handled the defense of general contractors and subcontractors on claims arising from job site injuries and deaths as well as complex commercial and residential construction defect claims. In addition to her representation of her construction clients, she also thrives on representing businesses and individuals on claims ranging from relatively minor personal injuries to substantial commercial disputes. She is an experienced litigator who has represented clients before courts and arbitrators throughout the state of Texas and has also been admitted to practice before the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and the United States Supreme Court to continue to represent her clients when appeals arise.

Whether she is consulted pre-suit to attempt to avoid litigation or is engaged to represent the client’s interest in litigation, Kristi’s focus is identifying and effectuating a defense strategy to obtain the best possible outcome for her client in the courtroom, before an arbitrator or arbitration panel, or at the bargaining table. Kristi’s achievements and skill in the representation of her clients have been recognized by multiple selections as a Texas Rising Star by Thomson Reuters. She is also a frequently requested speaker and has been honored to present multiple Continuing Education courses to fellow attorneys, adjusters, and risk managers throughout her career.

Kristi grew up in the Houston area and has made the DFW area her home since beginning her legal career. When not practicing law, Kristi enjoys spending time with her family and spoiling her dachshund.

### OFFICE

Dallas, Texas

9201 North Central Expressway  
Suite 600

Dallas, TX 75231

### PRACTICE AREAS

Commercial Litigation

Construction

Insurance Coverage

Insurance Defense

Premises Liability

Transportation

### EDUCATION

J.D., Baylor University School of  
Law, 2007

- Multiple Dean's List Selection
- Order of the Barristers
- Academic Excellence  
Scholarship Recipient

B.A., University of Texas at Austin,  
with honors, 2004

### ADMISSIONS

Texas, 2007

U.S. District Court Northern  
District of Texas

KRISTI L. KAUTZ (CONTINUED)

## Experience

*Lizanetz v. St. Paul Insurance Co.*; Northern District of Texas- jury verdict in favor of insurer in UIM case involving traumatic brain injury

*Rodriguez v. Virginia Cook Realtors*; 91<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Court; jury verdict in favor of property manager defendant in premises defect case

*Hernandez v. Sims*; 219<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court; obtained summary judgment for client in auto accident case

*Huffman v. Schotten*; 401<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Court; directed verdict in jury trial in favor of defendant in dog attack case

*Lamar v. Western Transportation, et al*; County Court at Law of Panola County; obtained verdict in bench trial of less than 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of Plaintiffs' prior demand in auto accident case involving significant medical; able to significantly reduce Plaintiffs' alleged damages in pre-trial motion practice

*Rodriguez v. Cappa Granite*; 352<sup>nd</sup> District Court; jury trial involving alleged traumatic brain injury; successfully excluded substantial damages evidence sought by Plaintiff in pre-trial motion practice and obtained verdict for significantly less than amount offered to Plaintiff at mediation

*Finch v. RLS Supermarkets*; 162<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court; obtained summary judgment in favor of supermarket in slip and fall case

*Penn v. Mercedes Benz Financial*; Arbitration; Obtained arbitration award in favor of dealership and financing company in breach of lease claim

*Huang v. Park Place*; 429<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court; obtained summary judgment in favor of auto dealership on negligence claim

*Lozado v. Fassler*; United State District Court for the Northern District of Texas; obtained summary judgment in favor of client on negligence and negligent entrustment claims.

## Honors & Recognitions

Texas Rising Star, Thomson Reuters 2016

U.S. District Court Southern District of Texas

U.S. District Court Eastern District of Texas

U.S. District Court Western District of Texas

U.S. Court of Appeals 5th Circuit

United States Supreme Court

---

KRISTI L. KAUTZ (CONTINUED)

Texas Rising Star, Thomson Reuters 2017

Board Certified in Insurance Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization 2023

## Community & Professional

State Bar of Texas

Dallas Bar Association

Collin County Bar Association

Texas Association of Defense Counsel

Texas Exes, Life Member

The Bar Association for the Fifth Circuit

## News

For the Defense ... November 2024  
Newsletter, 11.27.2024

For the Defense ... September 2024  
Newsletter, 09.30.2024

For the Defense ... July 2024  
Newsletter, 07.19.2024

For the Defense ... June 2024  
Newsletter, 06.27.2024

Kristi Kautz Receives Certification in Insurance Law from the Texas Board of Legal Specialization  
Press Release, 02.09.2024

Important Texas Supreme Court Decision on Attorney's Fees for First-Party Claims  
Alert, 02.07.2024

For the Defense ... January 2024  
Newsletter, 01.31.2024

FOR THE DEFENSE...January 2023 Newsletter  
Newsletter, *FLETCHER FARLEY SHIPMAN & SALINAS NEWSLETTER*, vol 01.2023, 01.16.2023

For the Defense ... March 2022  
Newsletter, 03.10.2022

---

KRISTI L. KAUTZ (CONTINUED)

For the Defense ... November 2021  
Newsletter, 11.11.2021

For the Defense ... October 2021  
Newsletter, 10.14.2021

For the Defense ... June 2021  
Newsletter, 06.10.2021

Important Texas Supreme Court Decision on UM/UIM Claims  
Alert, 05.25.2021

Texas Supreme Court Clarifies Standard for 18.001 Counteraffidavits  
Alert, 05.10.2021

For the Defense ... March 2021  
Newsletter, 03.11.2021

For the Defense ... February 2021  
Newsletter, 02.11.2021

For the Defense ... January 2021  
Newsletter, 01.14.2021

Kristi Kautz and Jeff Smith Promoted to Partnership 2021  
News, 01.04.2021

Still Zooming into 2021  
Alert, 12.16.2020

For the Defense ... October 2020  
Newsletter, 10.08.2020

For the Defense ... August 2020  
Newsletter, 08.13.2020

For the Defense ... July 2020  
Newsletter, 07.09.2020

COVID-19 and Civil Litigation  
Alert, 05.28.2020

For the Defense ... May 2020  
Newsletter, 05.14.2020

For the Defense ... April 2020  
Newsletter, 04.09.2020

---

KRISTI L. KAUTZ (CONTINUED)

Litigation in the Midst of a Pandemic  
Alert, 03.27.2020

For the Defense ... March 2020  
Newsletter, 03.12.2020

For the Defense ... November 2019  
Newsletter, 11.14.2019

For the Defense ... October 2019  
Newsletter, 10.10.2019

For the Defense ... July 2019  
Newsletter, 07.11.2019

For the Defense ... May 2019  
Newsletter, 05.09.2019

For the Defense ... March 2019  
Newsletter, 03.14.2019

For the Defense ... August 2018  
Newsletter, 08.09.2018

For the Defense ... Newsletter April 2017  
Newsletter, 04.13.2017

Kristi Kautz and Jeffrey Smith Named 2017 Texas Rising Stars by Thomson Reuters  
Press Release, 03.15.2017

Fletcher, Farley, Shipman & Salinas, LLP Granted a Directed Verdict in Negligence Case  
News, 01.20.2017

Five Lawyers Named 2016 Texas Super Lawyers® and Texas Rising Stars® by Thomson Reuters  
Press Release, 09.30.2016

## Speaking Engagements

Understanding Statutes of Limitations on Insurance Claims  
Event, WEBINAR, 10.28.2020

Coverage Issues in Personal Lines Policies; Texas Law Update, April 2019  
Event, Dallas, TX, 04.26.2019

## Publications & Presentations

Legislative Update; TADC Winter Seminar, Jan. 2022

KRISTI L. KAUTZ (CONTINUED)

Third Party Liability & Construction Indemnity; TADC Spring Seminar, May 2022