

John J. Kappel

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PROFESSIONAL LICENSES AND ADMISSIONS

State Bar of Texas, *Licensed 2014*

Texas Board of Legal Specialization, *Board Certified Family Law, 2020*

Texas Board of Legal Specialization, *Board Certified Civil Appellate Law, 2024*

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, *Certified Arbitrator, 2026*

U.S. Court of Appeals: Fifth Circuit, *Admitted*

U.S. District Court: Northern and Eastern Districts of Texas, District of Colorado, *Admitted*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

State Bar of Texas: Family Law and Appellate Sections, *Member (2014-present)*;

Texas Young Lawyers Association, *Member (2015-present)*; Court Rules Committee, *Member (2025-present)*;

Family Law Section: Leadership Class, *(2024-2026)*; Appellate *(2024-2026)* & Publications *(2026-present)*
Committee Member

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, *Fellow (2024-present)*;

Texas Association of Family Law Specialists, *Member (2021-present)*

Texas Family Law Foundation, *Member (2014-present)*

Texas Bar College, *Member (2018-present)*

Annette Stewart Inn of Court, *Associate Member (2019-present)*

Collin County Bar Association, Family Law, Civil Lit. & Appellate Law, & Young Lawyers, *Member (2012-present)*

Dallas Bar Association, Family Law, Appellate, & Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, *Member (2012-present)*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Goranson Bain Ausley, PLLC

Plano, TX

Partner, August, 2025—Present

Fox Rothschild, LLP

Dallas, TX

Partner, December 2022—August, 2025

Orsinger, Nelson, Downing & Anderson, LLP

Dallas, TX

Partner, July 2022—December 2022; Associate, July 2019—June 2022

Holmes | Diggs, PLLC

Dallas, TX

Associate, November 2014—June 2019

The Honorable Richard A. Schell, Eastern District of Texas

Plano, TX

Judicial Extern, January 2013—April 2013

EDUCATION

SMU Dedman School of Law

Dallas, TX

Juris Doctor, cum laude, May 2014

- SMU International Law Review Association, *Articles Editor 2013—2014; Staff Editor 2012—2013*
- SMU Board of Advocates, *Member, Howie Sweeney Moot Court and Jackson Walker Moot Court*
- SMU Civil Clinic, *Student Attorney January 2014—May 2014*

Baylor University

Waco, TX

Bachelor of Science in Economics, May 2011

HONORS AND AWARDS

AV Preeminent Rated by *Martindale-Hubbell*

Selected to Attorneys “On the Rise” by *Texas Lawyer* (2025)

Selected to “Texas Rising Stars” by *Super Lawyers* (2023-2026)

Selected to “Ones to Watch” for Family Law (2023-2026), & Appellate Practice (2026) by *Best Lawyers in America*

Selected to a list of the “Best Lawyers Under 40 in Dallas” by *D Magazine* (2021-2022)

CLE PRESENTATIONS

Speaker & Author, *Family Law Frustrations: Addressing Hague Convention Issues in Federal Courts*, Advanced Family Law (2026)

Speaker & Author, *Litigating Pre and Post-Marital Agreements*, Co-presenter: Stephen Post, Marriage Dissolution (2026)
 Speaker, *When Family Law Goes Global*, Texas Center for the Judiciary Regional Conferences (2026)
 Speaker & Author, *Motion for Summary Judgment Evidence*, Co-author: Mona Tovar, Advanced Evidence & Discovery (2026)
 Speaker & Author, *Handling Property Division*, Co-presenter: Paige Lyons, Handling Your First (or Next) Divorce Case (2025)
 Speaker & Author, *When Federal and Family Law Collide*, Co-presenter: Ruby Powers, Advanced Family Law (2025)
 Speaker & Author, *Creative Possession Schedules: Long Distance and International*, Marriage Dissolution (2025)
 Speaker & Author, *Intersection of Immigration and Family Law*, Co-presenter: Jenna Carl Jabara, Advanced Family Law (2024)
 Speaker & Author, *Trying Your First Case and Perfecting the Record for Appeal*, Marriage Dissolution 101 (2024)
 Speaker, *Preparing a Family Law Case for Appeal*, Annette Stewart Inn of Court (2023)
 Speaker & Author, *Hague Issues in Custody Cases*, Advanced Family Law (2023)
 Speaker, *Motions for Summary Judgment in Property Cases & Appeals in SAPCR*, Family Law Essentials (2023)
 Author, *Retirement on the Fly: Understanding Retirement Plans*, Co-author: Lon M. Loveless, Family Law 101 (2020)

ARTICLES

Author, *A Legislative Change to Dividing Undivided Property After Divorce*, SBOT: Family Law Section Report (Fall 2025)
 Author, *Perfecting the Offer of Proof*, Dallas Bar Association Headnotes (August 2025)
 Author, *Divorcing the Unmarried*, Dallas Bar Association Headnotes (September 2024)
 Author, *Grandparents' Rights in Custody Cases*, Good Life Family Magazine (September 3, 2019)
 Author, *Freedom of Expression, the Right to Privacy, and Grasping for a Middle Ground*, L. & Bus. Rev. Am. (2014)
 Author, *Two Down, Eleven to Go: Creating a Canadian SEC or Something Like It*, L. & Bus. Rev. Am. (2014)
 Author, *Limiting the Scope of Representation and the Snare of Unintended Responsibility*, L. & Bus. Rev. Am. (2013)
 Author, *The World's Oldest Profession Struggles to Carve out a Future for Itself*, L. & Bus. Rev. Am. (2013)

REPRESENTATIVE CASE

Divorce Appeals

Taylor v. Taylor, No. 05-24-00544-CV, 2025 WL 3464949 (Tex. App.—Dallas Dec. 2, 2025, pet. denied)
Mitchell v. Young, No. 02-24-00292-CV, 2025 WL 1909327 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth July 10, 2025, no pet.)
In the Matter of the Marriage of Renteria, No. 12-23-00171-CV, 2024 WL 3527409 (Tex. App.—Tyler July 24, 2024, no pet.)
Cowden v. Cowden, No. 02-23-00054-CV, 2023 WL 8267696 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth Nov. 30, 2023, no pet.)
Huemmer v. Huemmer, No. 05-21-00973-CV, 2023 WL 1960420 (Tex. App.—Dallas Feb. 13, 2023, no pet.)
Rodriguez v. Rodriguez, No. 05-22-00056-CV, 2022 WL 17974631 (Tex. App.—Dallas Dec. 28, 2022, no pet.)
Khademazad v. Khademazad, No. 05-20-00568-CV, 2022 WL 3024607 (Tex. App.—Dallas July 29, 2022, no pet.)
In re Interest of K.M.C., No. 05-16-00635-CV, 2017 WL 745802 (Tex. App.—Dallas, Feb. 27, 2017, no pet.)

Child Custody Appeals

Mugisha v. McLeod, No. 03-25-00311-CV, 2026 WL 1510930 (Tex. App.—Austin May 29, 2026, no pet. h.)
In the Interest of M.B., a Child, No. 02-25-00614-CV, 2026 WL 784905 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth Mar. 19, 2026, no pet.)
Interest of N.S., No. 02-25-00290-CV, 2025 WL 2736510 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth Sept. 25, 2025, no pet.)
Interest of R.R.P., No. 05-23-00858-CV, 2025 WL 2174767 (Tex. App.—Dallas July 31, 2025, no pet.)
Interest of S.S., No. 05-23-00928-CV, 2025 WL 593671, (Tex. App.—Dallas Feb. 24, 2025, no pet.)
Interest of A.Y.K., M.Y.K. and A.Y.K. No. 05-23-00590-CV, 2024 WL 4379942 (Tex. App.—Dallas Oct. 3, 2024, no pet.)
Interest of J.P., No. 05-22-01239-CV, 2023 WL 4101362 (Tex. App.—Dallas June 21, 2023, no pet.)
Interest of J.D.D.C., No. 05-22-01207-CV, 2023 WL 2259173 (Tex. App.—Dallas Feb. 28, 2023, no pet.)
In the Interest of D.F.D. and T.Z.D., No. 05-20-00428-CV, 2022 WL 2816542 (Tex. App.—Dallas July 19, 2022, no pet.)
In the Interest of D.A.C.-R., No. 05-21-00033-CV, 2022 WL 2302172 (Tex. App.—Dallas June 27, 2022), judgment set aside, opinion not vacated, No. 05-21-00033-CV, 2022 WL 2737752 (Tex. App.—Dallas July 14, 2022, pet. denied)
In re S.H., No. 05-17-00336-CV, 2018 WL 3751297 (Tex. App.—Dallas, Aug. 8, 2018, no pet.)

Original Appellate Cases

In re Teketele, No. 05-23-00929-CV, 2023 WL 6284704 (Tex. App.—Dallas Sept. 27, 2023, orig. proceeding)
In re Portteus, No. 05-23-00909-CV, 2023 WL 6226331 (Tex. App.—Dallas Sept. 26, 2023, orig. proceeding)
In re Castillo, No. 05-23-00055-CV, 2023 WL 2661241 (Tex. App.—Dallas Mar. 28, 2023, orig. proceeding)

In re Daniels, No. 05-20-00501-CV, 2020 WL 2715406 (Tex. App.—Dallas May 26, 2020, orig. proceeding)

Hague Convention Cases

De La Rosa v. Alonso, No. 4:24-CV-00059-AGD, 2024 WL 4646975 (E.D. Tex. Oct. 30, 2024)

Johnson v. Johnson, 669 F. Supp. 3d 1089 (D. Colo. 2023)

Ramsis v. Garcia, No. 4:22-CV-394-SDJ (E.D. Tex. May 24, 2022)

Garcia v. Ramsis, No. 4:21-CV-650-SDJ, 2022 WL 1036770 (E.D. Tex. Apr. 6, 2022), appeal dismissed, No. 22-40226, 2022 WL 10220199 (5th Cir. June 13, 2022)

Smith v. Smith, No. 4:19-CV-00784-O, 2019 WL 13201172 (N.D. Tex. Nov. 20, 2019), *aff'd*, 976 F.3d 558 (5th Cir. 2020)