



Jameson J. Watts

PARTNER

AUSTIN, TX

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OVERVIEW

Jameson keeps the end goal in mind as he helps businesses and individuals navigate the difficult problems they face in litigation and bankruptcy matters.

Jameson is experienced in all areas of bankruptcy law, although he most often represents debtors and creditors in Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases. Banks, private lenders, loan servicers and other financial institutions as well as businesses, debtors and trustees turn to Jameson for representation in state and federal courts, bankruptcy courts, and arbitrations before the American Arbitration Association.

Jameson also handles pre-bankruptcy workout matters and state court insolvency and receivership cases. In his multifaceted practice, he helps clients navigate the complicated ins and outs of bankruptcy law to assure that their rights are in compliance with the complex bankruptcy code.

A seasoned litigator, Jameson counsels clients in commercial disputes. He also represents owners, developers, design professionals, contractors, subcontractors and suppliers in construction defect and related matters. He handles all aspects of litigation from pre-suit demand through final appeal. Jameson is Board Certified in Consumer and Commercial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Jameson tends to see the big picture for clients, rather than focusing solely on the immediate problems. With every decision, he keeps the end goal in mind and a strategy in place to strive for the

Industry

Financial Services & Capital Markets

Services

Appellate

Construction & Design

Construction Litigation

Financial Services Litigation

Insolvency & Commercial Bankruptcy

Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution

most successful outcome possible for clients.

Experience

BANKRUPTCY

- Represented debtors and creditors in Chapter 7, 11 and 13 bankruptcies and adversary proceedings.
- Represented debtors and creditors in objections to discharge and nondischargeability proceedings in bankruptcy court.
- Represented purchasers of assets in bankruptcy proceedings through Section 363 sales and pursuant to Chapter 11 plans.
- Represented one of the country's largest private homebuilders after a concrete subcontractor filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy after falling behind on paying its suppliers. The suppliers filed liens on more than 100 houses, which meant that each property lien had to be investigated and considered separately.
- Represented a State Attorney General's Office and a state treasurer in an energy company's Chapter 11 bankruptcy filed in federal court.
- Represented creditors in defending objections to proofs of claim and preference actions.
- Represented major commercial lenders in various types of workouts, forbearance arrangements and restructuring agreements.
- Assisted Sutter Health in negotiating the acquisition of five radiation oncology centers—arising out of a Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceeding—from GenesisCare.

LITIGATION

- Represented court-appointed receiver in SEC civil action alleging \$345 million Ponzi scheme that involved the purchase and sale of fictitious consumer debt portfolios.

Experience

- Represented financial institutions in more than 100 cases nationwide defending claims related to mortgage lending practices, including Fair Debt Collections Practices Act, Truth in Lending Act, Fair Credit Reporting Act, Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act and numerous states' consumer protection statutes.
- Represented general contractor in multiparty arbitration defending claims related to alleged defects in design and construction of five-story, 200,000-square-foot hospital.
- Represented engineering firm in defending property damage claims related to design and construction of municipal waste water system.
- Obtained complete defense verdict in jury trial of claims for malicious prosecution, defamation and intentional infliction of emotional distress related to pursuit of collection efforts for unpaid debt and missing collateral.
- Represented a water technology provider in a case where a construction rental company failed to pay its bill. The construction rental company went on the offensive attempting to bring down the amount it owed, but the Husch Blackwell team removed the case to federal court, where it was dismissed
- Represented commercial landlord in \$2.9 million state court lawsuit for breach of contract and breach of guaranty claims against a spinal surgeon who vacated space, defaulted on the lease prior to its completion and then filed Chapter 7 bankruptcy a few days prior to the start of the trial.
- Represented infusion care provider and specialty pharmacy in dispute with insurance company over wrongful denial and underpayment of insurance claims.
- Represented a water technology provider in a case where a construction rental company failed to pay its bill. The construction rental company went on the offensive attempting to bring down the amount it owed, but the Husch Blackwell team removed the case to federal court, where it was dismissed.

Experience

- Prevailed on appeal on behalf of court-appointed receiver in dispute with two investor groups who challenged how the receiver's distribution plan allocated recovered funds among claimants.

Recognition

- *Austin Monthly* magazine, Top Austin Attorney, Bankruptcy and Workout, 2019-2024; Commercial Litigation, 2019
- *Benchmark Litigation*, 40 & Under List, 2020-2024
- Thomson Reuters' *Texas Super Lawyers*, Rising Stars, 2020-2024

Education

- J.D., University of Houston Law Center
 - National Order of Scribes Award
 - Order of Barristers
 - *Houston Journal of International Law*, Senior Articles Editor
- B.A., University of Texas at Austin
 - Government

Admissions

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

Community Leadership

Jameson serves on the board of Learn All the Time Network to assure that children have access to quality out-of-school-time programs. The nonprofit organization provides weekly and monthly training to participants in the network statewide to give them ideas about improving the quality of their own programs, generating new ideas for programs, and providing grants and scholarships to people with unique ideas for afterschool activities. Jameson oversees funding for the programs, approval of organizational decisions, and the director's fulfillment of the organization's mission. Jameson also attends all of the organization's major events.

- Learn All the Time Network, Board of Directors, Treasurer



2023 Austin Monthly Top Attorneys