

Ruth A. Brenton



Senior Attorney [Houston](#)
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Education

J.D. from St. Mary's University School of Law
B.B.A. from The University of Texas at Austin

Bar Admissions

Texas
United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas

Related Practices

Environmental
Condemnation & Eminent Domain
Environmental Litigation
Environmental Transactions
Regulatory Law
Litigation
Appellate
Energy Litigation
Financial Institution Litigation
Warranty

Related Industries

Energy

Overview

Ruth's practice is centered on commercial litigation, environmental and appellate matters. Ruth's commercial litigation representation includes motion practice, trial briefing, development of legal theories and trial preparation. Subject matter areas include contract and other commercial disputes, fiduciary litigation, banking litigation, real estate litigation, complex litigation involving oil and gas royalty and development claims and environmental damage claims. Ruth also represents clients in similar subject matters on appeal in state and federal courts of appeal.

Ruth's environmental practice includes representation of potentially responsible parties and landowners in environmental lawsuits, including bankruptcy matters, toxic tort, and property damage claims. Her practice includes suits and agency claims brought under various environmental statutes, such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Oil Pollution Act (OPA) and the Texas Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA).

Prior to joining Munsch Hardt in 2005, Ruth practiced law at two separate private, Texas-based law firms, where she focused on appellate and litigation matters in all state and federal courts. In 2009, Ruth started a solo practice, where she served as her clients' outside general counsel, provided representation in litigation and regulatory matters and served as local counsel. She then served as Of Counsel for a Texas litigation boutique, focusing on her appellate and litigation practice. Ruth rejoined Munsch Hardt in late 2015.

Experience

Financial Litigation

Successfully defended the Firm's bank client and obtained summary judgment on all Plaintiff's claims brought by a limited partner individually and on behalf of two limited partnerships, alleging the bank acted wrongfully when it made loans to the general partner using partnership real property as collateral. Obtained summary judgment on Plaintiff's causes of action for tortious interference, aiding and abetting a breach of fiduciary duty, and civil conspiracy. The summary judgment disposed of all of Plaintiff's claims, leaving only the bank's counterclaim for an award of fees and costs. Ruth briefed the matter on a successful appeal, where the Court of Appeals upheld the trial court's grant of summary judgment

Environmental Litigation

Successfully reduced Plaintiff's nine causes of action to two through summary judgment, produced trial briefing, motion practice and prepared appellate record in a large environmental property damage case relating to a Superfund site.

Oil & Gas Arbitration

Represented a working interest owner in a dispute over the ownership of deep rights, breach of purchase agreement and other claims relating to a field in California's San Joaquin Valley.

CERCLA

Represent PRP Group in management of a Superfund Site in Southeast Texas. Coordinate post-closure activities between the Group, Site Project Manager, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Newsroom

Speech: Environmental Issues in Distressed Asset Transactions