



## Spencer Fane Continues to Expand Southern Profile, Adds Experienced Litigator to Establish New Orleans Presence

Spencer Fane LLP is pleased to welcome [Christopher K. Ralston](#) as a partner in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Group who will lead the firm's effort to establish a presence in New Orleans.

Over a prolific 25-year legal career, Chris has helped businesses navigate a wide range of commercial litigation matters, focusing specifically on antitrust law, business torts, contract disputes, tax litigation, securities litigation and arbitration, direct selling, and intellectual property litigation. In addition, he maintains a substantial appellate practice.

"We have been actively exploring pathways into Louisiana for some time, as the state's dynamic business environment aligns closely with our firm's strengths and allows us to meet growing client needs in this market," Spencer Fane Chair [Patrick J. Whalen](#) said. "As we have come to know Chris as a leader with deep regional history, strong relationships, and a clear vision of how we can best serve clients across the state, it became clear that his reputation and experience make him exceptionally well-suited to guide our firm into New Orleans."

Chris provides diligent guidance through all phases of litigation, from early dispute assessment through trial, with a focus on achieving practical, results-oriented outcomes. He brings significant experience representing clients in complex commercial disputes and high-stakes matters across state and federal courts, and his deep understanding of the regional business landscape positions him to make an immediate and meaningful impact on the firm.

"Louisiana is a market with tremendous potential, and I am excited to join Spencer Fane as it plans to build out its presence in New Orleans. I've been impressed by the firm's thoughtful, client-focused approach to evaluating this opportunity together," Chris said. "The firm's commitment to exceptional client service and strong, collaborative culture give me great confidence in this move."

Chris completed his bachelor's degree at William & Mary before earning his Juris Doctor from Tulane University Law School.

Beyond private practice, Chris holds leadership positions at his alma mater, in several nonprofits, and across local, regional, and national bar and other legal associations. He just finished his second term as national board chair of the American Diabetes Association, recently served as president of the Tulane University Alumni Association, and is a recent president of the Louisiana Bar Foundation and the New Orleans Bar Association, among other national and local leadership roles. In addition, his achievements have been distinguished by multiple prestigious legal honors.