



SpencerFane®

Ruthie White

In Memoriam (1957 – 2023)

Contact

Houston

P 713.212.2626 | **F** 713.963.0859

rwhite@spencerfane.com



Overview

Ruthie White helped employers resolve labor and employment disputes in and out of court. She created an established track record of favorable outcomes in discrimination, harassment, and retaliation cases while defending educational entities, local governments, and clients in the energy, banking, technology, retail, health care, and construction industries in legal venues throughout the state.

Ruthie's broad in-house and outside counsel background gave her the ability to counsel employers on a wide range of labor and employment issues. She had significant experience drafting employment policies, procedures, and best practices; investigating allegations of employee misconduct; implementing disciplinary, job performance, and leave management procedures; and developing selection criteria for reductions in workforce. She frequently presented employment law seminars for supervisors and managers geared to meet the overall business objectives of her clients.

Having served as an adjunct professor at South Texas College of Law and on the boards of several nonprofit organizations, Ruthie helped founded The Downtown Group, a 300-member networking organization of African-American female lawyers, and contributed pro bono legal services to the Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program. She was a frequent speaker at Continuing Legal Education seminars for law schools and bar associations.

Education

- South Texas College of Law (J.D.)
- University of Houston (M.B.A.)
- The University of Texas at Austin (B.B.A.)

Bar Admissions

- Texas, 1997

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, 2001
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, 2001
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, 1998
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, 1998
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, 1997

Community Involvement

- Fort Bend County Women's Center, Former Board Member
- Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program

Distinctions

- *Houston Business Journal*, Women Who Mean Business, 2022
- *Best Lawyers in America*, Employment Law – Management, 2013-2020, 2022-2024
- *Texas Lawyer*, Best Mentor Award, 2020
- *Texas Super Lawyers*, 2014-2022
- Texas Minority Counsel Program, Trailblazer of the Year, 2019 Finalist
- Texas Minority Counsel Program, Outside Counsel of the Year, 2016 Finalist
- Association of Women Attorneys, Premier Women in Law Award, 2014
- *Texas Super Lawyers*, Rising Stars, 2005-2007

Memberships

- American Bar Association
- Association of Women Attorneys
- Association of Women Attorneys Foundation, Former Board Member
- Houston Bar Association
- National Bar Association
- South Texas College of Law, Board Member; Adjunct Professor
- State Bar of Texas, Labor and Employment Section
- The Downtown Group, Founder

Presentations and Publications

- "Humility is a Neglected Leadership Trait," *MCCA Diversity & The Bar*, May / June 2016
- "The Benefits of Fear," *MCCA Diversity & The Bar*, September / October 2016