



NATALIE WEST

Of Counsel

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EDUCATION

University of Texas School of Law,
J.D., 2006

Order of the Coif

Texas Law Review, Member

American University, B.A., 2000,
Political Science, *summa cum
laude*

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Law Clerk to The Honorable David
C. Godbey, U.S. District Court for
the Northern District of Texas

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP
Vinson & Elkins LLP
Houston Volunteer Lawyers
Program, Inc.

ADMISSIONS

Colorado
Texas (Inactive)

Natalie West represents sophisticated clients in complex commercial disputes. She regularly serves as the lead brief writer in antitrust cases, employment and consumer class actions, and appellate matters. Natalie's recent highlights include briefing a \$2.1 billion antitrust and labor class action, drafting and winning summary judgment against the named plaintiff in an FLSA collective action, and winning a motion to dismiss a federal antitrust action in New Mexico.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Representing the Southeastern Conference in certified and putative class actions across the country against the NCAA and its five major athletic conferences regarding student-athlete benefits.
- Obtained decertification of an FLSA conditional collective that had been certified before WTO took over the case. After the decertification decision was issued, lawyers for the plaintiffs conceded that another pending nationwide case—which WTO also was defending—should be decertified as well.
- Won case-ending summary judgment for an international shipping company in a multi-plaintiff, putative joint employment case in state court in California. The plaintiffs sought overtime, meal and rest breaks, minimum wage, and other damages.
- Won a \$14.3M arbitration award, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for a multistate cannabis leader in a Florida franchise dispute.
- Successfully represented one of the nation's largest grocery and foodservice distributors as a direct action plaintiff in antitrust litigation concerning broiler chickens.
- On the eve of trial, obtained settlement for a leading nationwide insurer facing a novel antitrust challenge to its method of handling property damage claims.
- Helped to successfully negotiate a class settlement—for 2.5% of the claimed damages—for a major utility provider and its subsidiary in a 15-year-old putative antitrust class action in Colorado federal court.

INDUSTRIES

- Healthcare
- Insurance
- Trucking

PRACTICE AREAS

- Antitrust & Competition
- Class Actions
- Appellate
- Commercial Litigation
- Employment

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BIOGRAPHY

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Prior to joining WTO in 2014, Natalie worked in the trial group at Davis Graham & Stubbs and as a litigation associate in the Dallas office of Vinson & Elkins. She also served as a law clerk for The Honorable David C. Godbey of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas.

Natalie graduated with high honors from the University of Texas School of Law, where she served as a member of the Texas Law Review and was elected to the Order of the Coif. As an undergraduate at American University, she interned in Senator Edward M. Kennedy's press office and in the U.S. Department of Justice.

CASES

- Representing the Southeastern Conference in certified and putative class actions across the country against the NCAA and its five major athletic conferences regarding student-athlete benefits.
- Obtained decertification of an FLSA conditional collective that had been certified before WTO took over the case. After the decertification decision was issued, lawyers for the plaintiffs conceded that another pending nationwide case—which WTO also was defending—should be decertified as well.
- Won case-ending summary judgment for an international shipping company in a multi-plaintiff, putative joint employment case in state court in California. The plaintiffs sought overtime, meal and rest breaks, minimum wage, and other damages.
- Won a \$14.3 million arbitration award, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for a multistate cannabis operator in a Florida franchise dispute involving lost royalties and right-of-first-refusal issues.
- Successfully represented one of the nation's largest grocery and foodservice distributors as a direct action plaintiff in antitrust litigation concerning broiler chickens.
- On the eve of trial, obtained settlement for a leading nationwide insurer facing a novel antitrust challenge to its method of handling property damage claims.

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- Helped to successfully negotiate a class settlement—for 2.5% of the claimed damages—for a major utility provider and its subsidiary in a 15-year-old putative antitrust class action in Colorado federal court.
- Won summary judgment for an international shipping company in a putative joint employment class action in federal court in Colorado.
- Won Montana Supreme Court victory for a health system in a putative consumer class action that challenged its policy of issuing refunds in the form of pre-paid debit cards. The victory affirmed WTO's prior summary judgment win and defeated the plaintiff's new claims on appeal.
- Representing a natural gas company in a certified antitrust class action alleging wholesale price manipulation and seeking more than \$2 billion in damages.
- Represented a nonprofit film society as a plaintiff in a circuit-dealing monopoly case against the nation's largest exhibitor of specialty films.
- Serve as national coordinating counsel to a major transportation company in FLSA collective action and individual and class wage and hour claims.
- Successfully represented multiple defendants in a \$2 billion federal antitrust and labor class action challenging the au pair exchange program administered by the Department of State. After four years of litigation, and just two months before trial, WTO helped to negotiate settlement for the defense group, resulting in defendants paying only 3% of the demand.
- Successfully opposed conditional certification of an FLSA collective action and won summary judgment against the named plaintiff.
- Won a defense verdict for a national carrier in a bad faith jury trial in which the plaintiff claimed the insurer must pay for a special run of bricks in order to fully repair the plaintiff's home. A 12-member jury unanimously rejected the plaintiff's claims, agreeing that WTO's client had acted in good faith. WTO also won the Tenth Circuit appeal.
- Won WTO's motion to dismiss a federal antitrust action for a New Mexico healthcare trade association accused of conspiring to exclude healthcare providers from market.
- Obtained summary judgment for USAA against a putative class action alleging that USAA's time limitation on Med-Pay benefits violated Colorado law and that USAA failed to disclose the time limitation.

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- Defeated class certification amid allegations that 2,000,000 Whirlpool-made ovens were prone to overheat. WTO attorneys disqualified the plaintiffs' expert witness and successfully argued that the claims were overly broad and the plaintiffs' purported theories for failure were too many to achieve certification.
- Won summary judgment for a major ski resort as plaintiff in a contract dispute involving a wireless infrastructure contractor.
- Defeated putative class claims for bad faith and consumer protection act claims related to time limits for medical payments coverage.

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Colorado
Texas (Inactive)

LEGAL MEMBERSHIPS, ACTIVITIES & HONORS

- Colorado Bar Association
Colorado Women's Bar Association

COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIPS, ACTIVITIES & HONORS

- SeriesFest
Board of Directors
Denver Film Society
Board of Directors, 2014-2017

ARTICLES & PRESENTATIONS

Articles

- "DOJ, FTC Announce Expedited Antitrust Review and Guidance Procedure for Collaborative Efforts Aimed at Responding to COVID-19 Pandemic," (March 2020).

PERSONAL INTERESTS

- Film and theater, supporting animal rescue organizations, Irish history, and the Houston Astros