



Bonnie C. Barksdale

Partner

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I like my work, but I /love the resulting relationships—in some cases even spanning multiple generations. One family has been a firm client for 50 years, and I have personally been working with them on real estate matters for 30. That really means something to me.

Bonnie is an experienced real estate attorney with more than thirty years of experience. Her practice touches various aspects of real estate work, including complex purchase and sale transactions and many aspects related to such transactions such as financing, entity formation, development and construction contracts, associated supply agreements and environmental issues. Clients include fortune 500 companies, close family businesses and family investment groups, corporate entities, individuals, and religious and other nonprofit groups. Bonnie also has significant experience handling mortgage company lending work and has cultivated decades-long relationships in this space as well.

Bonnie routinely assists real estate lenders throughout the financing process—including drafting and negotiating loan documents and handling often complex title issues, security perfection and loan workouts. She has additional experience in default and foreclosure work for institutional lenders; in aiding lenders post-foreclosure; and in representing both buyers and sellers in the acquisition of distressed properties, including note purchases and foreclosures associated with such purchases.

Bonnie's clients also include both landlords and tenants and she routinely represents a variety of clients in drafting and negotiating office, retail and other commercial leases.

Commercial and residential developers turn to Bonnie for help in forming homeowners' and property owners' associations, during the development stage. This typically involves drafting and advising upon covenants and restrictions and advising association boards on issues related to corporate governance and statutory compliance.

One thing that sets Bonnie's practice apart is her master's degree in clinical social work. "The skills that I learned while working as a social worker," she explains, "help me to empathize and personally relate, perhaps taking some of the stress off a client's plate and to providing reassurance, when and to the extent necessary." Bonnie is also passionate about pro bono work, assisting clients that include animal rescues, churches and other nonprofits.

Areas of Focus

Industries

- Family Office – Family Wealth
- Financial Services
- Non-Profit
- Real Estate and Construction

Services

- Banking and Finance
- Corporate and Mergers & Acquisitions
- Real Estate

Education

- SMU Dedman School of Law, J.D., 1992
 - Order of the Coif
 - Phi Delta Phi
 - Citation Editor, *Journal of Air Law and Commerce*, 1991-1992
- University of Texas at Austin, M.S.S.W., 1989
- University of Maryland, B.S., 1986

Admissions

- Texas, 1992

Leadership

- American Bar Association, State Bar of Texas, Dallas Bar Association, and Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, Member
- Crowley Education Foundation, President
- Advisory Board for Lawyers Against Domestic Violence of Legal Services of North Texas, Co-Chairperson, 1993-1995
- Kid Net Foundation Board of Directors, Former Member

Recognition

- *Lawdragon 500*, Leading Dealmakers in America, Real Estate and Construction, 2025

Speeches/Publications

- Presenter, *The Role of Education Foundations in Texas Public Schools* (October 2019).
- Author, *No Longer "Business As Usual" For Texas Property Owner Associations*, Carrington Coleman Capital Newsletter (Summer 2013).
- Author, *Texas Homestead Exemptions*, Carrington Coleman Capital Newsletter (Spring 2013).
- Author, *New Minerals Coverage Available in Texas Title Insurance Policies*, Carrington Coleman Capital Newsletter (Fall 2009).
- Author, *Post-Foreclosure Deficiency Suits Against Borrowers and Guarantors*, Carrington Coleman Capital Newsletter (Summer 2009).

Outside of Work

I have a large pollinator garden, which includes several fountains, that I am actively learning how to cultivate. Milkweed is a basic planting for monarchs, but I am always researching and experimenting with other flowers, including herbs such as mint that will attract a wide range butterflies, birds and bees. I also am a big dog person and spend lots of time with my labs and goldens—and my grown kids' dogs as well, which always mysteriously seem to get left at my house for babysitting (and I don't mind a bit).