



## Elizabeth Abbott Gilman

### Partner

Houston  
+1.713.815.7327

[beth.gilman@klgates.com](mailto:beth.gilman@klgates.com)

### OVERVIEW

Elizabeth Gilman is a partner in the firm's Houston office. She focuses her practice on commercial disputes and is uniquely qualified in disputes involving the energy sector, especially oil and gas. Her technical education and experience enhances the value of her representation and counsel. She earned her undergraduate degree from Purdue University, majoring in industrial management with an emphasis in manufacturing. Elizabeth excels in her ability to work with clients and experts in complex fields.

Elizabeth has experience in all phases of the dispute process which allows her to provide comprehensive representation for her clients. She has experience in early dispute management, litigation and arbitration through the appellate process and collection. She has tried cases both in front of a jury and an arbitrator. On behalf of her clients, she brings a high level of experience in energy litigation, and both on-shore and off-shore construction disputes. Elizabeth's experience in contract negotiation and drafting further contributes to the value of her representation to her clients. Her experience spans many forums, including mediation, state and federal court, and domestic and international arbitration.

Clients particularly appreciate Elizabeth's positive attitude and calm demeanor in even the most stressful situations. Her creative mindset and analytical eye, coupled with her communication and organizational skills contribute to successful management of her clients' resources toward accomplishing the ultimate goal.

Elizabeth is also passionate about helping individuals who could otherwise not afford legal representation. She has handled various matters on a pro bono basis, including family and immigration law matters. She has represented clients in divorce proceedings, applications for temporary protected status, applications for special immigration juvenile status, and individuals seeking asylum.

### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Elizabeth was a litigation attorney at another Houston law firm for several years. During law school, she also served as a federal judicial intern for the Honorable David Hittner of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- K&L Gates LLP Award for Pro Bono Service (2015, 2016, 2017)
- University of Houston Law Center 100% Giving Campaign (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16)
- Leadership Contribution Recognition at Grace Bible Church (2014, 2015, 2016)
- University of Houston Law Center LEX Award for Scholastic Excellence in Legal Research and Writing (2008)

## PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Hiring Committee Member, K&L Gates LLP (Houston)
- Texas Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- University of Houston Law Center Alumni Fundraising (Captain of Giving Campaign)
- United Way Law Firm Giving Campaign (Previous Chairperson)
- Prison Entrepreneurship Program (Executive Volunteer)
- Grace Bible Church (Partner)
- District H CrossFit - Houston Heights area

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Presenter, "Indemnities on Both Sides of the Atlantic," U.S./U.K. Comparative Law Seminar (November 2018)
- Presenter, "Contractual Indemnification," Texas Women in Energy (April 2017)
- Moderator, The Criminalization of Environmental Regulation: How to Respond and Is There More to Come?, "The Trump Transition: A Changing Enforcement Climate" (March 2017)
- Panelist, "Pension & Welfare Plan Overpayments: What's an Employer to Do?," Practical Law (December 2016)
- Panelist, ABA Employee Benefits Corporate Counsel Forum (October 2016)
- Panelist, "Ready, Set, Succeed: How to Start Your Career on the Right Foot" (June 2016)
- Co-Presenter, "Engineering Ethical Issues" (March 2014)
- Co-Presenter, "Engineering Ethical Issues" (September 2012)
- Co-Presenter, "Understanding Structural Engineering Professional Liability Law" (December 2009)

## ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

Elizabeth loves staying active. When she is not participating in CrossFit, she is often running half marathons or downhill skiing. Elizabeth also enjoys reading and spending time in her garden with her husband, daughters, and rescue dog. Frequently, she can also be found participating in activities related to her church, Grace Bible Church.

## EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Houston Law Center, 2009 (*Houston Journal of International Law, Editor-in-Chief*)
- B.S., Purdue University, 2005

## ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Texas
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas
- United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas
- United States District Court for the Western District of Texas

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- September 2020, Offshore Energy Webinar Series: "I am Concerned About Termination" - Issues Around Termination of Contracts (*Webinar*)
- 06 November 2018, Comparative Law Seminar (*Presentations*)

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "Mexican charterer challenges Ranger's asset-seizure efforts," *Tradewinds*, 30 April 2015

## NEWS & EVENTS

- 5 March 2021, K&L Gates Names 31 New Partners Across Global Platform (*Press Release*)

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Oil and Gas
- Complex Commercial Litigation and Disputes

- Construction and Infrastructure Dispute Resolution
- International Arbitration
- Maritime Disputes
- Offshore Construction

## INDUSTRIES

- Energy
- Energy Disputes

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Representation of children seeking Special Immigrant Juvenile Status
- Represented clients in execution of alternative to guardianship paperwork through the Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program
- Represented Syrian family seeking temporary protected status
- Represented family from El Salvador seeking asylum based on religious persecution through KIND: Kids in Need of Defense
- Represented Christian missionary in appeal of denial of renewal of temporary protected status
- Represented commodities trading company in successful pre-award attachment of assets in the amount of \$12 million to secure prospective award of \$36 million in arbitral proceeding in London.
- Represented cellular phone distributor in dispute over lease agreement
- Represented real estate brokerage firm in suit to recover broker's commission
- Represented company regarding enforcement of non-competition agreement resulting in successfully securing a temporary injunction
- Represented employer in Fair Labor Standards Act litigation
- Represented company in trademark matter against competitor
- Represented company regarding alleged misuse of domain name
- Represented software company in matter alleging breach of fiduciary duty, theft of trade secrets, and shareholder oppression
- Represented operator of inland tank barges and towing vessels in CERCLA cost recovery litigation
- Representation of engineering firm in breach of warranty case involving offshore jack-up rig design

- Representation of developer and operator of Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) vessels regarding various transactional and litigation matters
- Represented offshore diving services company in dispute over non-payment of charter party agreement, seeking over \$20 million in damages
- Represented individual and company in False Claims Act matter with respect to sole-source government contracting
- Represented subcontractor in dispute regarding delay of work on industrial complex
- Represented architecture firm in suit for recovery of fees for hospital project
- Represented worldwide hotel chain in claim for indemnification
- Represented wind turbine services company in contract dispute
- Represented pipeline manufacturer in dispute over pipeline installation
- Represented OEM equivalent turbine parts and services company in dispute regarding equipment
- Represented environmental remediation company in dispute regarding breach of contract
- Represented oilfield supply company in matter alleging fraud and breach of contract based on faulty fracking equipment
- Represented a manufacturer of ceramic proppant used for fracking operations in a dispute against a storage facility
- Represented pharmaceutical and biotechnology company in commercial dispute with former U.S. agent, seeking over \$38,000,000 in damages, to a favorable resolution
- Represented franchisor in dispute with franchisee
- Represented detailed design engineer in ICC arbitration for design of topsides of FPSO