



2021 REVIEW

WATTS | GUERRA ^L_P

A NOTE FROM MIKAL AND FRANK

Hello Everyone!

2021 was busier than ever for our firm. With the vaccine rollout, we once again had to pivot and change how we operate to adjust to yet again, another new environment. Courtrooms opened back up and we found ourselves in our favorite place to be - TRIAL.

Our attorneys and staff worked tirelessly to ensure that our clients were taken care of and that they received the help they deserved. We expanded our staff to assist with our growing dockets to ensure that there would not be any delays for our cases. Our team was relentless in the pursuit of justice.

This year we remained stronger than ever. We were able to teach yet another new group of law clerks the "Watts Guerra Way". We gave back to our community, continued to work tirelessly for our clients, and bonded in ways we did not know were possible.

Here is a brief recap of our year and as you read about it, we hope that you found good to celebrate in 2021 like we did!

Mikal & Frank

OUR TEAM

SAY *hello* TO OUR NEW GRASSHOPPERS

We had our largest group of summer law clerks to date, all eager and excited to learn more about the legal field.



JACK ADAMS
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION: MARKETING**



KIMBERLY CRUZ
ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2022



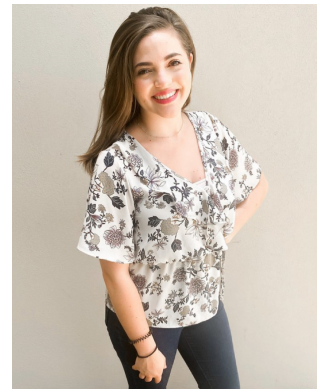
STEVEN CONSTANTINO
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2023



JENNA DONATIELLO
GEORGE WASHINGTON
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2024



DAVID FUENTES
ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2022



KATHERINE HOLLOWAY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AT AUSTIN
**BACHELOR OF ARTS: ENGLISH,
MINOR: SOCIOLOGY**



JULIE MATSEN
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, FEB 2022



RYAN NAGLE
ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2023



CATHERINE PEREZ
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
**BACHELOR OF ARTS: POLITICAL
SCIENCE, HONORS MINOR:
LEADERSHIP STUDIES, MINOR:
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

OUR TEAM

SAY *hello* TO OUR NEW GRASSHOPPERS

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KATIE QUILLEN
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2022



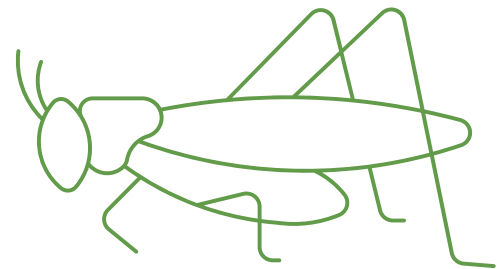
DENAE SCOTT
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
BACHELOR OF ARTS:
PSYCHOLOGY, MINOR:
PRE-LAW



ANNA SIMANK
TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE:
COMMUNICATIONS AND
PSYCHOLOGY



BAILEY VANNATTA
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, FEB 2022



OUR TEAM

OUR *returning* GRASSHOPPERS



KELSEY ABBEY

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2022



ROGER ALONZO

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
**BACHELOR OF ARTS:
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**



WILL FINLEY

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AT AUSTIN

**APPLIED MOVEMENT
SCIENCE EDUCATION**



GRACE HOLLAND

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2022



HARRIS HOWARD

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AT AUSTIN

**BACHELOR OF ARTS: ENGLISH,
MINOR: SOCIOLOGY**



SHAY MCMULLAN

THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
CHICAGO SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2024



ILLIANA PARKER

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2022



LAURA RAMIREZ

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

BACHELOR OF ART: PHILOSOPHY



AMANDA REYES

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
**BACHELOR OF ARTS: POLITICAL
SCIENCE**

OUR TEAM

OUR *grasshoppers*

Affectionately known as "grasshoppers", our law clerks navigated a pandemic while learning about our law firm. In addition to attending virtual depositions and mediations, they were able to balance school activities like law journal, moot court or mock trial while getting to chat with local judges, the Dean of St. Mary's Law School, and Erin Brockovich!



OUR TEAM

Welcome TO THE TEAM

Our team expanded in 2021 as several attorneys joined our firm or were promoted!



RUSS ABNEY

Russ is licensed to practice law in Alabama, Georgia, New York, and Texas. His passion is to help injury victims in a variety of high-profile multidistrict litigation (MDL) cases.

LANCE KIMBRO

Lance is a San Antonio native where he completed his undergrad at UTSA. He joined our law clerk program briefly before graduating with his law degree from St. Mary's University and is now an Associate Attorney. Lance has a passion for service and a desire to level the playing field in high-stakes situations.



OSCAR QUIROZ

Oscar began as a law clerk for us and continued to successfully balance school and work until he graduated from St. Mary's Law School. Oscar is now an Associate Attorney at Watts Guerra whose practice focuses on personal injury, mass torts, and commercial litigation.



OUR TEAM

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CHLOE SHRODE

Chloe is a San Antonio native who left to complete both her undergraduate and Juris Doctorate degrees at Texas Tech University. She joined Watts Guerra as an Associate Attorney where she hopes to continue to pursue her passion of helping others.

DIANE HIRSCH

Diane joined us as Of Counsel in 2021 and Diane Hirsch comes to Watts Guerra with over 30 years of legal experience, serving the last 19 years in-house for Valero, a Forbes 10 company. Diane's experience includes decades of contract negotiations, with extensive international travel negotiating customer contracts.



OUR COMMUNITY

WE *Love* OUR COMMUNITY

San Antonio is a one-of-a-kind community that never hesitates to lend one another a helping hand. Whether it be donating to the local food bank, children's hospital, Special Olympics, or local schools and universities - we make it our mission to always give back.



We love our city and in 2022 we hope to continue giving back to our community so that San Antonio can maintain being the best city in the USA!

Want to know our employees' favorite spots around San Antonio?

[CLICK HERE!](#)

Write ON!

Our blog is one of the most frequently visited pages on our website. Our attorneys and law clerks fill its pages with hot topic articles and legal information that is a valuable source of information for all who need it. Below are some of the most-read blogs on the site in 2021.

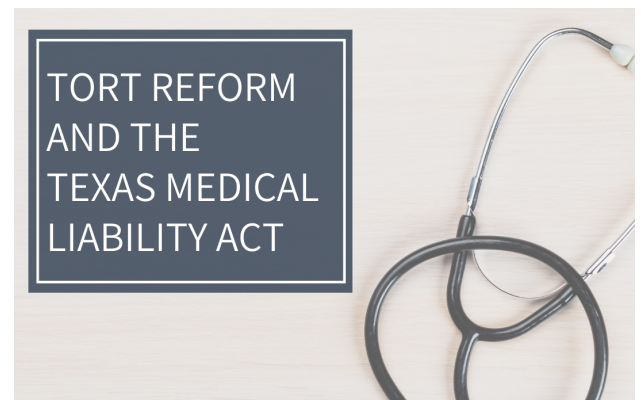


THE TRAILBLAZING WOMEN OF WATTS GUERRA

March is Women's History month and all the articles trend year-round. Here is a recap of all that was posted this year,

TORT REFORM AND THE TEXAS MEDICAL LIABILITY ACT

Cases that fall under the large umbrella of "health care liability claims" are subjected to increased hurdles in the litigation process, including heightened notice requirements, caps on recoverable damages, and mandatory expert reports.



5 THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A LAW SCHOOL

Choosing a law school should be based on a variety of factors. To help make that tough decision a little easier, we gathered together 5 important things you should consider when you are choosing a law school.

MIKAL WATTS

AND *action!*

Capital Partner, Mikal Watts, traveled all over the world this year to assist our Mass Tort clients with their cases. From depositions in Belgium, Mexico City, and Canada to helping open our new office in Puerto Rico, he never stops when our clients' legal rights and quality of life are at stake!



To sneak a peek at our Puerto Rico office and hear about Mikal's journey of becoming a lawyer,

[CLICK HERE](#)

WORDS OF *wisdom*

Capital Partner, Frank Guerra, had the opportunity to be a guest speaker for many organizations this year. He was able to share the wisdom he has gained through his years of being an attorney and operating a law firm. He spoke on various topics like empowering your trial team, jury selection, opening statements, and closing arguments.



WATTS | GUERRA

THE PROCESS OF MAXIMIZING THE GOLDEN RULE

FRANCISCO GUERRA IV
WATTS GUERRA LLP

THE JURY SELECTION PROCESS

Frank went over the components of jury composition and how that affects your trial, COVID's impact on jury selection, the process that Watts Guerra uses to select their jury, and best practices he has learned along the way throughout his career.

EMPOWERING YOUR TRIAL TEAM

Frank was one of the speakers at the midyear conference. He went into depth about how capital partners must trust and empower their team starting from the law clerk level all the way to the partner level in order to help foster the success of the firm.

How Watts Guerra Empowers Its Trial Team

(NO FEAR)

Fostering Development Beginning with the Grasshopper to Jedi to Trying a Case with a Partner

Francisco Guerra IV
Watts Guerra LLP



MOVERS & *shakers*

Our attorneys are the best (yes, we are biased), however, we are not the only ones who think so. This year many of our attorneys were independently recognized for being among the best in trial law and civil litigation.

2021 Texas Super Lawyers

Mikal Watts, Frank Guerra, Ed Allred, Bob Brzezinski, Mark Fassold, Mike Murray, and Shalimar Wallis

2021 Super Lawyers - Rising Stars

Jorge Mares, Michael Montaña, and Erin Rogiers

Best P.I. Lawyers - The Scene S.A.

Mikal Watts, Frank Guerra, Shalimar Wallis, Mark Fassold, and Rebecca Page

Best S.A. Plaintiff Lawyers - The Scene S.A.

Mikal Watts, Frank Guerra, Ed Allred, Bob Brzezinski, Mark Fassold, Alexis Garcia, Travis Headley, Jorge Mares, Mike Murray, Jennifer Neal, Alicia O'Neill, Rebecca Page, Caleb Rackley, Erin Rogiers, and Shalimar Wallis

Top Female Plaintiff Lawyers - The Scene S.A.

Alexis Garcia, Jennifer Neal, Alicia O'Neill, Rebecca Page, Erin Rogiers, and Shalimar Wallis

MASS TORTS

DEMANDING *justice*

Our Mass Tort Offices in San Antonio and California had a very busy 2021! Here are some highlights of our (GROWING) Mass Tort Team's great work on behalf of our injured clients:



In 2021 we opened 9 new Mass Torts and settled or processed settlements in 13 Mass Torts. Notably, Mikal Watts played a pivotal role in the PG&E Fire Settlement. Approximately 17,000 of our clients are now in the process of being awarded their share of the historic settlement.

On top of that great victories for our clients, we served in leadership roles in several MDLs and actively represented a total of more than 100,000 clients. We were grateful to be able to work with many of our friends who referred cases to us, and co-counseled with us, in representing these deserving clients across all of our Mass Tort dockets. In order to keep up with our fast-paced and expanding practice, we opened a second Mass Tort office and grew our total Mass Tort Team to over 140 amazing and caring men and women. We are looking forward to 2022 and further growth while we continue to work hard for our clients!

MASS TORTS

PUERTO RICO

DEMANDING *justice* IN PUERTO RICO

This year we expanded our presence all the way to Puerto Rico!



Watts Guerra opened an office in Puerto Rico this year to help handle the expanding Mass Torts side of our practice. This office quickly learned and adapted to our large client base making sure that they were handled with the high standard of care we set for every case. With over 70 employees and growing, Watts Guerra is doing our best to ensure that our clients come first with every step of the litigation process!

[SEE OUR PUERTO RICO WEBSITE HERE!](#)

FIGHTING THE *good* FIGHT

2021 was full of new cases for our civil litigation side of the business. Even amid the courts reopening and still navigating court proceedings by zoom, we were able to help our clients begin their road to recovery one settlement at a time.

Cases our attorneys and staff settled included:

- AUTO ACCIDENTS
- TRUCKING ACCIDENTS
- MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS
- CROSSWALK INJURIES
- PRODUCT LIABILITY
- PREMISES LIABILITY
- BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY
- BREACH OF CONTRACT
- MASS TORT

Our fight for justice was not deterred when the pandemic hit and is still continuing to flourish as we traverse the new legal landscape. We always make sure that our clients and their needs come first so they could begin their road to recovery. We are going to continue to bring that passion and work ethic into the new year as we take on more complex cases for our clients!



OUR CASES

WE'VE BEEN *busy*

In 2021 we worked harder than ever for our clients proving that COVID did not deter our spirits and that we are able to navigate the new legal landscape it brought. Among the countless personal injury cases that we were able to settle outside of the courtroom, we also took on new mass tort cases like California Wildfires. It has always been our goal to help our clients enforce their rights to find justice. This goal will continue in 2022.



We hope that this was a fantastic year for everyone and look forward to making an impact in our community and with our clients in 2022!

Find us on:

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www.wattsguerra.com

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