



2022 REVIEW

WATTS | GUERRA ^L_P

A NOTE FROM MIKAL AND FRANK

Hello Everyone!

2022 was busier than ever for our firm. Courtrooms were catching up from the backlog during COVID and we found ourselves in our favorite place to be - TRIAL. We had continual court settings that allowed us to finally feel like we were "back in the game".

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 2022 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.



KYLE BATSON

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2023



SAVANNAH CONE

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2024



VICTORIA FRAZIER

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2023



SOMMER HAZEL

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2023



ALBERTO LAUREL ROXANNA MAIBERGER

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AT SAN ANTONIO

**EXPECTED GRADUATION
DATE MAY 2023**



ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2024



SARAH MCFARLAND

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

**EXPECTED GRADUATION
DATE MAY 2023**



ALEX RIOS

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2025



HARRIS STEPHENS

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2023

OUR TEAM

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KAYLA SULTEMEIER

SOUTHERN METHODIST
UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2024



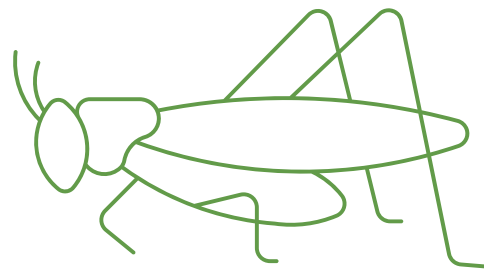
COLE VESSELS

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE:
ECONOMICS
MINOR: PHILOSOPHY**



KARLEIGH ZOLINSKI

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, DEC 2024



OUR *returning* GRASSHOPPERS

OUR TEAM



ROGER ALONZO
ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
MAY 2020



KYLE BASTON
ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2023



ETHAN EREVIA
UNIVERSITY OF THE
INCARNATE WORD
MAY 2021



HARRIS HOWARD
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AT AUSTIN
MAY 2021



CATHERINE PEREZ
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
MAY 2023



LAURA RAMIREZ
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
AUGUST 2019



AMANDA REYES
LINCOLN MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY
DUNCAN SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CANDIDATE, MAY 2027



DENAE SCOTT
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
MAY 2021



LILY SHRODE
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
MAY 2024

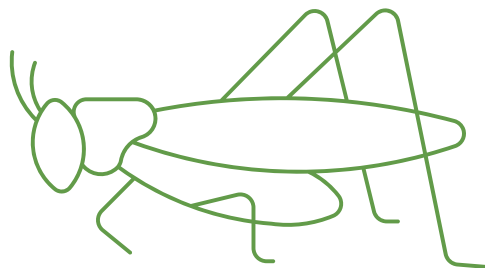


MIA TOLIN
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AT AUSTIN
MAY 2021

OUR TEAM

OUR *grasshoppers*

Affectionately known as "grasshoppers", our law clerks were exposed to as many aspects of the litigation process as possible. From preparing court documents, and watching depositions, hearings, and mediations all the way to attending trials, we do our best to prepare the clerks for law school or their careers upon graduation.



OUR TEAM

Welcome TO THE TEAM

Our team expanded in 2022 as several former grasshoppers passed the bar and became attorneys at our firm!



KELSEY ABBEY

Kelsey is originally from Florida. She completed her bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and obtained her law degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law. She joined our law clerk program and clerked for us while she was in law school and is now an Associate Attorney.

DAVID FUENTES

David grew up in Boerne, Texas, and completed his bachelor's degree at Texas State University. He attended St. Mary's University Law School and clerked for us during his time there. He is now one of our new Associate Attorneys.



GRACE HOLLAND

Grace was born and raised in Midland, Texas. She graduated with honors from the University of Texas at Austin and St. Mary's University School of Law. During her time in law school, she clerked with us until she was promoted to an Associate Attorney.

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JULIE MATSEN

Julie received her bachelor's degree from Barrett, the Honors College at Arizona State University. Before attending law school at Baylor University School of Law she was a legal assistant at the Office of the Texas Attorney General. During her time in law school she joined our clerk program and upon graduation she became an Associate Attorney.

ILLIANA PARKER

Illiana was born and raised in San Antonio. She attended the University of Texas at Austin for her bachelor's degree and upon graduation obtained her law degree from St. Mary's University. During her time in school, she was a member of our clerk program and is now an Associate Attorney.



BAILEY VANNATTA

Bailey is a native of Fort Worth, Texas. She graduated with her bachelor's degree from Baylor University and returned there for law school to obtain her Juris Doctorate. During her time in law school, she was in our grasshopper program and is now one of our new Associate Attorneys.



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 programs, Special Olympics, or local schools and universities - we make it our mission to always give back.



We love our city and in 2023 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!](#)

POPULAR POSTS

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 2022.



THE TRAILBLAZING WOMEN OF WATTS GUERRA

March is Women's History month and each year we love to ask our female attorneys for tips and tricks.

CAUSES OF PRESSURE COOKER EXPLOSIONS AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

Manufacturing defects and design defects are frequently the cause of pressure cooker explosions. Some common injuries from pressure cooker use are steam burns, contact burns, splashed/spilled hot liquids, and explosion.



SEX TRAFFICKING AND HOTELS

Human trafficking is an illegal billion-dollar industry where victims are forced to perform labor and/or commercial sex acts against their will. Affecting an estimated 24.9 million people worldwide, these crimes are perpetuated across various industries including health and beauty services, construction, health care, and hospitality.

MIKAL WATTS

AND *action!*

Capital Partner, Mikal Watts, traveled all over the world this year to assist our Mass Tort clients with their cases. He never stops when our clients' legal rights and quality of life are at stake! He was honored with the Champion of Justice award by Texas Watch this year and delivered an unforgettable acceptance speech.



To watch his full acceptance speech where he provided the keys to his success he has learned so far in his career,

[CLICK HERE](#)

FRANK GUERRA

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.

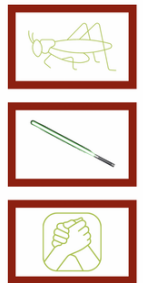
EMPOWERING YOUR TRIAL TEAM

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



TTLA CAR WRECKS CLE SEMINAR

Frank travelled to Dallas this past year to deliver a CLE course on deposing medical experts. He was surrounded by so many attorneys in his field and was also able to listen and learn from the knowledge others passed on.

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.

2022 Texas Super Lawyers

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

2022 Super Lawyers - Rising Stars

Paige Boldt, Jorge Mares, and Erin Rogiers

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

Mikal Watts, Frank Guerra, Bob Brzezinski, Jorge Mares, Jennifer Neal, Erin Rogiers, Shalimar Wallis

Top Female Plaintiff Lawyers - The Scene S.A.

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



DEMANDING *justice*

Our Mass Tort Offices had a very busy 2022! Here are some highlights of our (GROWING) Mass Tort Team's great work on behalf of our injured clients:



2022 was the busiest year yet for the Watts Guerra Mass Tort Offices. We opened 10 new, large Mass Tort cases and settled/processed settlements in 16 Mass Tort cases. Notably, Mikal Watts was recently named as one of the leaders of the acetaminophen litigation, a historic case based on the scientific association between acetaminophen use during pregnancy and autism in children.

On top of securing important victories for our clients, we served in leadership roles in several MDLs and actively represented a total of more than almost 150,000 clients. As always, 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, our second Mass Tort office in Puerto Rico grew our total Mass Tort Team to over 140 amazing and caring men and women. We are looking forward to 2023 and further growth while we continue to work hard and efficiently for our clients!

MASSTORTS LEADERSHIP

DEMANDING *justice* FROM THE TOP

Watts Guerra has proudly been named to many MDL Leadership roles in mass tort litigation over the years. We openly welcome the extra work that is associated with these roles and always stand at the forefront of fighting for those harmed by bad corporate conduct. In fact, currently, we have four of our powerhouse female attorneys in MDL Leadership as well as our Capital Partner, Mikal Watts.



MIKAL WATTS
MOST RECENTLY
ACETAMINOPHEN CO-LEAD



SHELLY SANFORD
ETHICON PHYSIOMESH
PLAINTIFF STEERING COMMITTEE



ERIN ROGIERS
3M EARLY VETTING
SUBCOMMITTEE



PAIGE BOLDT
ZANTAC LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
PLAINTIFF STEERING COMMITTEE
SOCIAL MEDIA
PLAINTIFF STEERING COMMITTEE



ALICIA O'NEILL
PARAQUAT PLAINTIFF
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DIXIE FIRE
LIASION COUNSEL

DEMANDING *justice* IN PUERTO RICO

Our Puerto Rico Mass Tort office is continuing to grow and expand.



Watts Guerra opened an office in Puerto Rico in 2021 to help handle our practice's expanding Mass Torts side. The people in this office are experts on all of our cases and assist our large client base making sure that they are handled with the high standard of care we set for every case. 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

2022 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 2022 we worked harder than ever for our clients. We continued to learn and expand our team so that anyone who needs our services would receive one on one care and attention at the highest level. Among the countless personal injury cases that we were able to settle outside of the courtroom, we also took on new mass tort cases. It has always been our goal to help our clients enforce their rights to find justice. This goal will continue in 2023.



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 2023!

Find us on:



@wattsguerrallp



@wattsguerra



@wattsguerrallp



@wattsguerra

www.wattsguerra.com

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