

Gabriela M. Barake *Associate*

713.752.8654
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Overview

Gabriela M. Barake assists clients in the areas of fiduciary litigation, probate, trust, and guardianship litigation, and commercial and business litigation. Her clients are trustees, administrators, guardians, and executors. Gabriela's practice includes working on matters which relate to probate and trust administration, accounting and administration issues, as well as prosecution and defense of fiduciary claims. She is committed to ensuring that individuals suffering from dementia, mental illness, physical and mental limitations, and other disabilities have guardians who protect them physically, financially and emotionally.

Prior to joining Crain Caton & James, Gabriela represented clients with consulting and litigation matters covering various employment laws, including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII); the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA); the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA); and the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (FLSA). Her experience includes the representation of individuals and companies before administrative agencies, state and federal courts. She has both prosecuted and defended claims across various areas of law.

She is fluent in Spanish and can assist clients who prefer to communicate in Spanish.

Gabriela's enthusiasm and passion for the law and clients carry over to her personal interests. Have some time? Grab your helmet, hockey stick, or any ball and join her for a motorcycle ride, hockey game, or sporting event.

Education

J.D., University of Houston Law Center

B.A., Criminal Justice & Public Policy,
University of Guelph

Practice Areas

Fiduciary Litigation

Probate, Trust and Guardianship

Admissions

Texas State Bar
Southern District of Texas

Experience

- Prepared detailed, persuasive demand letters that have helped recover over \$750,000 for clients without initiating litigation
- Represented individuals and businesses at mediation and brought all to mutually agreeable settlements
- Second-chaired trial, including assisting in preparing opening and closing statements and demonstrative evidence
- Prepared and presented multiple witnesses at a collective action bench trial that resulted in a total judgment in excess of \$1 million
- Prepared and delivered informative presentations to the general public on the Fair Labor

Standards Act in English and Spanish

- Represented claimants and respondents at unemployment and wage claim hearings before the Texas Workforce Commission, resulting in favorable decisions
- Prepared and analyzed severance, employment, noncompetition, non-disclosure agreements and other employment-related contracts, and advised clients on same
- Conducted workplace investigations and interviews, and recommended actions to address immediate concerns and ensure best practices in the future

Memberships

- American Academy of Attorneys

Recognitions

- "Top 40 Under 40", American Academy of Attorneys