



## Craig R. Bennett

Partner, Austin

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### Practice Areas

- Environment & Natural Resources
- Energy
- Government Relations & Public Policy

### Experience

- Administrative and Regulatory
- Electric Power
- Electric Regulatory
- Energy Regulation & Governmental Affairs
- Environmental | Energy
- Environmental Compliance & Enforcement
- Environmental Due Diligence
- Environmental Litigation & Toxic Tort
- Government Contracts & Procurement
- Insurance
- Insurance Administrative, Investigative, and Regulatory Matters

### Biography

Craig Bennett is an attorney in the environmental, legislative, & regulatory group of Jackson Walker's Austin office. Craig's practice focuses on administrative and regulatory law, including counseling clients on a broad range of matters such as compliance, enforcement, litigation, and judicial review of administrative agency decisions. Prior to joining Jackson Walker, Craig served as a Master Administrative Law Judge with the Texas State Office of Administrative Hearings for 18 years.

In the time before serving as an Administrative Law Judge, Craig was in private practice in Dallas and Austin as a litigator in the areas of employment, civil rights, governmental liability, and environmental law. A seasoned mediator, Craig has spent two decades successfully mediating dozens of cases for a variety of clients. From 2004-2010, Craig served as an Exam Commissioner for the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Craig currently serves as an adjunct professor teaching Texas Administrative Law at Baylor Law School and at the University of Texas Law School, where he has taught since 2007. He has been a regular guest lecturer at numerous universities and law schools, including the following institutions in China: Wuhan University Law School, Xiamen University Law School, and Jinan University. Craig is also a frequent speaker at continuing legal education seminars, including various Advanced Administrative Law Seminars.

## Education

B.S., Indiana University, Bloomington  
J.D., Baylor University Law School

## Bar Admissions

Texas

## Court Admissions

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit  
United States District Court for the Eastern, Northern, and Western Districts of Texas

## Practice Experience

- Advises clients on litigation strategy and compliance with applicable regulatory and other laws
- Has represented a wide variety of municipal entities in employment and civil rights litigation, including large population counties and prominent school districts
- Has represented both large and small private entities in state and federal courts
- Has served as first chair and second chair counsel in jury and bench trials in federal courts

## Publications & Speeches

- Co-Author, "[Texas Supreme Court Grants ERCOT Sovereign Immunity](#)," Jackson Walker Insights (July 2023)
- Quoted in "[EPA may try to block Texas seawater desalination plant in Corpus Christi](#)" by The Texas Tribune (September 2022)
- Co-Author, "[Being an Effective Advocate](#)," *Currents* by POWER Engineers (February 2022)
- Speaker, "The Art of Persuasion: Winning at SOAH," 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Texas Administrative Law Seminar, UT Law CLE (September 2020)
- Speaker, "Changing Perspectives on Judicial Deference," 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Texas Administrative Law Seminar, UT Law CLE (August 2019)
- Speaker, "Successfully Navigating a SOAH Contested Case Hearing," 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Advanced Administrative Law Course, Texas Bar CLE (June 2019)
- Speaker, "SOAH Proposals for Decision," 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Administrative Law Course, Texas Bar CLE (June 2018)
- Speaker, "Agency License Denial and Revocation Proceedings," 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Administrative Law Course, Texas Bar CLE (June 2017)
- Speaker, "A Comparison of SOAH ALJs and In-House ALJs," 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Administrative Law Course, Texas Bar CLE (June 2015)
- Speaker, "Common Evidentiary Issues," 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Administrative Law Course, Texas Bar CLE (June 2013)
- Speaker, "Evidentiary Mistakes to Avoid," 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Texas Administrative Law Seminar, UT CLE (August 2012)
- Speaker, "Summary Disposition: Hearing? We Don't Need No Stinking Hearing!," 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Administrative Law Course, Texas Bar CLE (June 2012)
- Speaker, "Pleadings and Motion Practice Before SOAH," 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Administrative Law Course, State Bar of Texas CLE (October 2006)

## Community Involvement

- State Bar of Texas
  - Administrative Law Section
  - Public Utility Law Section

- Austin Bar Association
  - Administrative Law Section
- Speaker, UT Quest Series
- Exam Commissioner, Texas Board of Legal Specialization, 2005-2010
- Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution, Basic Mediation Training, 2000
- Officer, Federal Bar Association, Dallas Chapter, 1998