# Christine Demana

Partner

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T: +1 214.698.3246
Dallas



## Capabilities

Litigation
Betting and Gaming
Intellectual Property
Labor and Employment
Life Sciences
Media, Entertainment, and Technology
Technology Litigation
Trade Secrets
Trials

## Credentials

### Education

Harvard University - 2011 Juris Doctor
University of Michigan - 2007 Bachelor of Arts

### Admissions

New York Bar
Texas Bar

### Clerkships

USDC, Northern District of Texas, Hon. David C. Godbey, 2011 - 2012

Christine Demana is a partner in Gibson Dunn's Dallas office. Her practice focuses on high-stakes trade secrets, restrictive covenant, and executive employment disputes, as well as complex commercial litigation for clients in the tech, gaming, life sciences, and professional services industries. Christine leads all aspects of litigation strategy—from counseling on trade secrets and employee mobility policies and agreements through trial—and she regularly prosecutes and defends cases for expedited relief around the country.

*Chambers USA* ranks Christine as among the top Intellectual Property: Trademark, Copyright & Trade Secrets lawyers in Texas, with clients praising her ability to "handle[] complex matters with ease" and her "top-notch" "understanding of business needs." *The Legal 500 USA* has twice named Christine a "Key Lawyer" for Trade Secrets nationwide. *The Best Lawyers in America*© repeatedly recognizes Christine in Commercial Litigation, and *Super Lawyers* notes her as a "Rising Star." *The American Lawyer* | Litigation Daily has included Christine as a "Litigator of the Week" Runner Up multiple times—including after she "secure[d] a sweeping injunction" in a trade secrets and noncompete lawsuit on behalf of DraftKings and after she successfully blocked Michigan's efforts to shut down interstate wagering on behalf of Churchill Downs.

Some of Christine's recent and notable litigation accomplishments include:

- Winning novel jurisdictional ruling to keep UPS's claims against former executives for trade secret misappropriation, tortious interference with restrictive covenants, and knowing participation in breach of fiduciary duties in the Texas Business Court, and setting precedent around that Court's "qualified transaction" jurisdiction.
- Winning preliminary injunction in noncompete lawsuit for AMN Healthcare, Inc., preventing former divisional vice president from soliciting clients and working for competitor in similar role after expedited discovery and a full evidentiary hearing, and securing a consent injunction after seeking temporary restraining order against another executive in another noncompete case.
- Winning "sweeping" preliminary injunction in trade secrets and noncompete matter for DraftKings, preventing former executive from working for rival in a similar role after expedited discovery and full evidentiary hearing.
- Obtaining decisive, first-of-its-kind victory in the Sixth Circuit for Churchill Downs, finding the Interstate Horseracing Act preempts Michigan's licensing requirements and upholding preliminary injunction blocking Michigan from regulating TwinSpires' online interstate wagering platform.
- Defeating preliminary injunction after evidentiary hearing—and thereafter securing

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full summary judgment and dismissal—for Churchill Downs in suit to overturn suspension of horse trainer following 2021 Kentucky Derby; subsequently defeating second temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction brought by racehorse owner less than one year later.

- Winning motion to compel arbitration on novel equitable estoppel theory in biotech (device) trade secrets dispute.
- Winning temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction for SaaS payment company Capchase in noncompete and trade secrets case with former employee.
- Achieving voluntary dismissal of plaintiff's class allegations after winning two motions to dismiss on behalf of One Call Management Incorporated in misclassification and wage-and-hour litigation and subsequently securing favorable settlement of individual claims.
- Securing favorable settlement for industry leading tech payment company and its two cofounders in bet-the-company founders' and trade secrets dispute after winning partial motion to exclude opposing party's key expert witness.
- Filing suit on behalf of group of Tinder cofounders, early executives, and employees in multibillion-dollar litigation against Tinder's parent companies, after which Gibson Dunn secured $441 million settlement following a nearly four-week jury trial.

Christine also frequently serves as a thought leader on trade secrets, restrictive covenants, and litigation strategy, most recently speaking at the American Conference Institute's 13th Annual Women Leaders in Life Sciences Law conference, The American Lawyer | Texas Lawyer's General Counsel Conference Southwest, and CenterForce's IP Strategy Summit and Employment & HR Summit. She co-hosts an annual, invitation-only trade secrets and restrictive covenants conference and CLE event in Dallas.

Alongside her commercial docket, Christine proudly maintains an active *pro bono* practice. She spearheads the Firm's partnership with the Texas Parole Project, including leading a cross-office team that received the Firm's Frank Wheat Pro Bono Award for their efforts in securing the release of, and parole for, a woman who had been incarcerated as the result of a nonviolent crime. She has represented individual clients charged with federal crimes as lead counsel both in trial and on appeal in federal district and circuit courts around the country. And the New York Legal Aid Society twice awarded Christine its outstanding service award for her work on behalf of New Yorkers with disabilities in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy.

Christine serves on Gibson Dunn's Ethics and Professional Development Committees, after previously serving on the Firm's Associates Committee. Before joining Gibson Dunn, Christine served as a law clerk to the Honorable David C. Godbey in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas. She received her Juris Doctor in 2011 from Harvard Law School, where she was both a student attorney and on the Board of Directors as the Vice President for Practice Standards for the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau.


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