

TEXAS LAWYER

Litigation Department of the Year Winner: Gibson Dunn

By ALM Staff

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Gibson Dunn is among the finalists for Texas Lawyer's 2025 Litigation Department of the Year Award. Read a Q&A with Trey Cox, co-chair of Gibson Dunn's global litigation practice group and co-partner in charge of the Dallas office, below.

What was your department's most significant achievement in 2024, and why?

- *Ryan v. FTC*: secured nationwide relief from the FTC's non-compete rule.
- *Truck Insurance Exchange v. Kaiser Gypsum Company*: obtained a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court victory in a major win for insurance companies.
- *K.B. v. Meta Platforms*: defeated a lawsuit from a sex trafficking victim.
- *Apollo v. Serta*: bankruptcy trial victory in Houston was called a "milestone" in the syndicated debt market.

What was your biggest challenge in 2024, and how did you adapt?

The biggest challenge facing Texas law firms in 2024 is managing the imbalance between staffing levels and practice-specific demand. Litigation continues to grow at a strong pace across the state, particularly in areas like commercial, energy, and intellectual property disputes. At the same time, the transactional market remains uneven due to persistent economic uncertainty and shifting deal activity. This divergence creates internal strain: overstaffing in slower areas,



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Gibson Dunn Office in Manhattan, New York

under-resourcing in fast-moving practices, and difficulty aligning talent deployment with evolving client needs. Compounding this, the Texas corporate landscape is changing at an extremely rapid pace, with a wave of new entrants reshaping the legal services market and increasing pressure on firms to stay nimble and client-focused. One way we're adapting is by managing the Dallas and Houston practice as a singular, integrated "Texas" platform for clients. This allows us to allocate resources more effectively and deliver consistent, high-quality client support across the state. While these pressures are real, the solution is not to pull back. It's to stay committed to hiring the best people—those with the versatility, judgment, and drive to thrive in a dynamic legal environment. Excellence in talent remains the firm's best hedge against market volatility and its greatest asset in delivering lasting client value.