

JONATHAN W. ASHFORD



Equity partner and energy litigation group co-chair with 22 years representing upstream operators, midstream pipelines, and oilfield service companies in commercial, royalty, and regulatory disputes. Lead trial and appellate counsel in matters before Texas state courts, the Fifth Circuit, and FERC; book of business approximately \$9.4M annually.

CONTACT



(713) 555-0166



j.ashford@example.com



Linkedin.com/in/jonathanashford



Houston, TX

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Texas School of Law, 2002 (with honors; Texas Law Review)
- B.A. History, Rice University, 1999 (Phi Beta Kappa)
- Bar Admissions: Texas (2002), Louisiana (2006), Oklahoma (2011); admitted in 5th and 10th Circuits and FERC practice

KEY SKILLS

- First-chair trial practice (state and federal)
- Appellate advocacy
- Oil and gas litigation
- Royalty and lease disputes
- Class action defense
- FERC and Texas Railroad Commission matters
- Client origination and key account management
- Practice group leadership
- Firm governance
- Associate development and partner-track mentoring

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Partner, Co-Chair Energy Litigation, Renton Beckwith LLP, Houston, TX**
March 2015 – Present
 - Lead counsel in a six-week jury trial defending an E&P client against a \$215M royalty class action; obtained directed verdict on the core post-production cost claim.
 - Manage a group of 28 lawyers across Houston, Dallas, and Denver; group revenue grew from \$14M to \$38M over six years.
 - Originated 14 institutional clients including two Fortune 500 operators and a publicly traded midstream company.
 - Argued three appeals before the Texas Supreme Court on lease termination, force majeure, and implied covenant issues.
 - Serve on the firm's executive committee and chair the associate compensation subcommittee.
- **Partner, Energy Disputes, Caldwell Strome PC, Dallas, TX**
August 2010 – June 2015
 - Built a Permian-focused litigation practice from scratch; grew personal book from \$400K to \$4.2M over five years.
 - Tried four jury cases to verdict and resolved 30+ commercial disputes through mediation or arbitration.
 - Led the firm's expansion of energy regulatory work before the Texas Railroad Commission.
 - Mentored seven associates, three of whom were promoted to partner during or after this period.
 - Co-authored the firm's quarterly Texas Energy Litigation Report, circulated to roughly 1,200 in-house lawyers.
- **Senior Counsel and Associate, Pryor Lundgren LLP, Austin, TX**
January 2003 – November 2010
 - Handled commercial and energy litigation matters for independent operators and service companies.
 - Second-chaired a Fifth Circuit appeal that reversed a \$48M judgment against a midstream client.
 - Led discovery and motion practice on a multi-district pipeline-explosion matter involving 400+ plaintiffs.
 - Promoted to senior counsel in 2008 after consistent top-quartile billable and origination metrics.
- **Law Clerk, Hon. Edith H. Jones, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, New Orleans, LA**
May 2002 – September 2003

- Drafted bench memoranda and proposed opinions across commercial, energy, and constitutional matters.
- Reviewed petitions for rehearing en banc and assisted on three published opinions in oil and gas cases.