



Attorneys & Counselors

Raequel Roberts
Director of Marketing
T: 713-226-1278
rroberts@lockelord.com
www.lockelord.com

For Immediate Release

Three Locke Lord Lawyers Join Select List of Texas Lawyers Board Certified in Respective Practice Areas

(HOUSTON, DALLAS) February 24, 2014 – The Texas Board of Legal Specialization has awarded three Locke Lord LLP lawyers - Houston Partner [Steven Bryant](#), Dallas Senior Counsel [Kirsten Castañeda](#), and Houston Associate [Megan Hodapp](#) - Board Certification in their respective areas of practice.

The designation indicates an attorney has substantial, relevant experience in a select field of law, as well as a demonstrated and tested competence in that area. Only about 10 percent of lawyers in Texas receive Board Certification.

The certification process is rigorous and thorough, including fulfillment of minimum practice and continuing education requirements, submission of qualified references, and passage of a comprehensive, daylong examination in the specialty area. After attaining certification, a lawyer must continue to meet stringent, ongoing requirements.

Bryant is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law. His bankruptcy and restructuring experience spans a broad range of industries and company sizes. He has represented secured and unsecured creditors (including banks, indenture trustees and major industrial corporations) in complex business bankruptcy cases across the United States. Bryant also represents plaintiffs and defendants in bankruptcy-related litigation.

Castañeda - Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law - has briefed and argued appeals and original proceedings for more than a decade in the Texas courts of appeals, Texas Supreme Court, and the Fifth Circuit, in addition to representing clients in the Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Circuits. Her appellate work encompasses arbitrations, health care issues, employment disputes, consumer finance cases, class actions and other commercial matters. She frequently works with trial lawyers on discovery disputes, error preservation, and jury charge preparation and objections in both state and federal trial courts.

Hodapp is Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law. Her practice focuses on labor and employment litigation, as well as counseling employers across the United States on employment-related issues ranging from discrimination and harassment, to covenant not to compete and trade secrets issues, to wage and hour issues, labor relations and union contract negotiation. Hodapp also assists clients in drafting and/or revising their employment policies, handbooks, agreements and other documents to comply with the various state and federal laws which may apply to the client's business location and operations.



Locke Lord consistently ranks among *American Lawyer's* top 100 U.S. law firms. The Firm's full range of practice and industry areas serve national and international clients from offices in Atlanta, Austin, Chicago, Dallas, Hong Kong, Houston, London, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Sacramento, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. It has an excellent reputation in complex litigation, regulatory and transactional work, with its 650-plus attorneys building collaborative relationships and crafting creative solutions – all designed and executed to meet clients' long-term strategic goals.

###