



# Next Gen



This week's Q&A with

**Kimberly Williams**

*Kimberly Williams is a Partner in Locke Lord's Labor and Employment Practice Group based in the Dallas office. Kim is a full-service labor and employment attorney, which means she handles all aspects of employment law. On any one day, she will 1) work on employment litigation matters; 2) counsel clients regarding termination or leave issues; 3) investigate sexual harassment claims; and 4) assist with due diligence, reviewing reps and warranties and preparing employment agreements, offer letters and/or separation agreements in connection with corporate transactions.*



## More About Kim

### What has helped you to become successful in your field?

Applying a common-sense approach to the practice of employment law and making sure to put my clients in the best defensible position should litigation occur.

### How did you know that you wanted to practice law? // What inspired you to become a lawyer?

I went to college intending to become an archeologist. I quickly realized that I hated camping, so archeology was off the table. I decided to double major in history and anthropology, given that my archeology credits applied to both. My university adviser told me I essentially had three options: teaching, grad school or law school. I decided to take the LSAT and see what happened. The rest is history.

### What drives or motivates you on your hardest days/during your most difficult matters?

Knowing that there is a light at the end of the tunnel, and when I come out on the other side, I will be more experienced, knowledgeable and insightful.

### What do you do to give back to the community?

I sit on the Board of Hope International, a nonprofit international adoption agency that also provides humanitarian aid to orphanages throughout the world. I am also an Advisory Council member of The Summerlee Foundation, which provides grants to nonprofits focusing their efforts on animal protection and Texas history.

**What do you do to relax and reset after a long week?**

I have two children — ages 5 and 7 — so there is not much time for relaxation. But spending time with family on the weekends helps me reset for the upcoming week. Yoga and margaritas help, too.

**What would be your fantasy career if you weren't a lawyer?**

If it is truly a fantasy career, I would be an archeologist that does not have to sleep outside in a tent!



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