

# Frances Williamson

Associate Houston

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Frances draws on her experience clerking at both the trial and appellate levels of the federal judiciary, along with a strong foundation in legal scholarship, to deliver thoughtful and precise analysis in complex disputes.

After graduating law school, Frances served as a law clerk to the Honorable Charles Eskridge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas and Don Willett of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. During law school, she served as a Student Fellow in the Private Law Program, was a Senior Articles Editor for the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy, and served as Treasurer of the Federalist Society. .

Frances has published in the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy, the San Diego Law Review, and the George Mason Law Review (forthcoming) on issues of originalism, the Major Questions Doctrine, federalism, tribal water law, and property rights.

Before law school, Frances attended Rice University, where she served as an Academic Fellow and received multiple awards for research and writing.

## PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

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- *Taking Water and the Dangers of Federal Property*, 33 GEORGE MASON L. REV. \_\_ (2026) (forthcoming)
- *Tribal Water Rights: Private Law Alternatives to the Federal Trust Doctrine*, 61 SAN DIEGO L. REV. 407 (2024)
- *Water and Federalism in Texas v. New Mexico*, HARVARD JOURNAL OF LAW & PUBLIC POLICY, PER CURIAM (Summer 2024) (online)
- *The Meaning of "Public Meaning": An Originalist Dilemma Embodied by Mahanoy Area School District*, 46 HARVARD JOURNAL OF LAW & PUBLIC POLICY 257 (Winter 2023)
- *Implicit Rejection of Massachusetts v. EPA: The Prominence of the Major Questions Doctrine in Checks on EPA Power*, HARVARD JOURNAL OF LAW & PUBLIC POLICY, PER CURIAM (Summer 2022) (online)

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & MEMBERSHIPS

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- Houston Young Lawyers Association
- Houston Bar Association

## PRACTICES

Appellate  
Catastrophic Personal Injury & Wrongful Death Litigation  
Commercial Litigation  
Employment & Executive Employment Litigation  
Energy Litigation  
Insurance Coverage Litigation  
Intellectual Property Litigation  
Products Liability Litigation  
Professional Liability Defense  
Risk Mitigation  
Trusts & Estates Litigation

## ADMISSIONS

State Bar of Texas

## CLERKSHIPS

- Honorable Don Willett, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, 2024-2025
- Honorable Charles Eskridge, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, 2023-2024

## EDUCATION

- J.D., Harvard Law School, 2023
  - Private Law Program
  - Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy (JLPP),
  - The Federalist Society

- B.A., Rice University, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, History, 2020
  - President's Honor Roll
  - Vandiver Brown Scholarship
  - Distinction in Research and Creative Work
  - Ira and Patricia Gruber Award for Best Honors Thesis
  - Clifford Lefton Lawrence Award in British History