

Maryam Ghaffar

Associate Houston

Direct: 713.951.6208 Fax: 713.951.3720

Email: mghaffar@beckredde.com



Maryam's practice focuses on commercial litigation.

Before attending law school, Maryam taught middle school for three years in the Houston Independent School District. Her ability to empathize, listen, and serve were transferred into her work throughout law school while serving on the *Houston Law Review*. The same traits translated effortlessly into her role as a law clerk at both the Texas Supreme Court and the Southern District of Texas. All these experiences have taught her that each client has unique needs, and a true advocate understands the nuances of every situation.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represented Tempur Sealy International, Inc. in defending against the Federal Trade Commission's attempt to block its \$5 billion acquisition of Mattress Firm Group. As co-counsel with Cleary Gottlieb, secured a Texas federal court ruling denying the FTC's motion, allowing the deal to proceed despite regulatory opposition. See Opinion and Order [here](#).
- Achieved a favorable settlement for a co-owner of a nutrition and supplement company after successfully prosecuting claims of minority owner oppression.
- Represented an investor defrauded in a \$1 million deal and secured a favorable resolution following aggressive discovery and depositions.
- Obtained dismissal and removal of invalid and unenforceable mechanic's liens on behalf of a major energy company, serving as lead counsel in defeating subcontractor claims.

Pro bono

- Secured victory as lead counsel in Hague Convention matter pursuant to the International Child Abduction Remedies Act after an 11-hour evidentiary hearing in federal district court and secured affirmance at the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. See Opinion and Order [here](#).
- Representing a class of incarcerated persons challenging the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's (TDCJ) use of Security Precaution Designator (SPD) codes that have kept hundreds of people in prolonged solitary confinement without due process. Representation thus far has included securing class certification for our clients alongside our co-counsels at the Texas Civil Rights Project.
- Represented an incarcerated person through final judgment in a jury trial in federal court pursuing claims against a correctional officer for 8th Amendment violations.

HONORS & AWARDS

- Pro Bono/Community Service & Leadership Award by the University of Houston Law Alumni Association, 2025
- Named in Lawdragon 500 X - The Next Generation in Commercial Litigation, 2025

PRACTICES

Commercial Litigation

ADMISSIONS

State Bar of Texas

United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas

CLERKSHIPS

Honorable Justice John Devine, Supreme Court of Texas, 2020-2021

Honorable Judge Jeffrey Vincent Brown, United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, 2021-2022

EDUCATION

J.D., University of Houston Law Center, *summa cum laude*, 2020

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- Order of the Barons
- *Houston Law Review*, Chief Articles Editor
- Class Speaker for the Class of 2020

B.A., Houston Baptist University, Government, *magna cum laude*, 2013

- Honors College

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- “Handling Your First Section 1983 Pro Bono Case,” *The Federal Lawyer* (Summer 2025)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & MEMBERSHIPS

- South Asian Bar Association of Houston
 - Co-Chair, CLE and Programming
 - Vice President of Fundraising and Sponsorship, 2023-2024
- *Houston Law Review* Alumni Association Board of Directors, Secretary
- Houston Young Lawyers Association, Pro Bono & Service Committee, Co-Chair
- Muslim Bar Association of Houston
- Muslim Legal Society of Texas, Board Chair

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Teach for America 2014 Corps Alum