HUSCH BLACKWELL



Elizabeth Penn

SENIOR COUNSEL

THE LINK VIRTUAL OFFICE
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OVERVIEW

Clients come to know Elizabeth as an innovative thinker who cares not only about their cases, but about their businesses and livelihoods. She practices from New Orleans as a member of our virtual office, The Link.

Elizabeth defends clients in asbestos litigation in state and federal courts across the Gulf South. Since 2016, Elizabeth has managed a 100% asbestos docket, representing manufacturers, employers, and premise owners. She handles all aspects of the litigation life cycle—often defending multiple parties—up to and through trial, and she has extensive experience with depositions, motion practice, and trial.

Elizabeth's practice began in the New Orleans area, a region with a massive volume of asbestos cases. Asbestos has touched nearly every resident's life here, and Elizabeth routinely handles both household exposure and environmental claims. She has developed a sophisticated understanding of New Orleans juries, and she is highly skilled at jury selection in a jurisdiction where the jury pool is heavily affected by the issues presented in toxic tort litigation.

Elizabeth takes a historical perspective on clients' cases, considering the scientific understanding of the era in which an exposure occurred and litigating cases where she believes allegations are genuinely unfair. Elizabeth also has a gift for working with people, including opposing counsel, and she's known for her ability to step back and consider the larger picture of a case.

Industries

Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Asbestos Litigation
Complex Torts (CXT)
Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
Toxic Tort

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Elizabeth aims to find a resolution where it's possible—and she has the experience to recommend the best course of action for trial when a resolution can't be reached.

Experience

- Management of all aspects of asbestos litigation in state and federal courts, representing product manufacturers, employers, and premise owners, often representing multiple parties.
- Significant trial experience, including *voir dire*, opening statement, expert preparation, and strategic management.
- Extensive deposition experience, including defending and cross-examining expert witnesses, preparing and defending corporate representatives, and cross-examining mesothelioma plaintiffs in perpetuation depositions.
- Substantial pretrial motion practice, including jurisdictional challenges, *Daubert* and summary judgment motions, evidentiary challenges, enforcement of prior releases, and indemnification demands.
- Active discovery practice, including eDiscovery negotiation and management.

Recognition

- The Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch; Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions – Defendants, Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, Product Liability Litigation – Defendants; 2021-2024
- Super Lawyers; Louisiana Rising Stars, 2019-2021; Mid-South Rising Stars, 2017-2021

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Education

- J.D., University of Mississippi School of Law
  - *Mississippi Law Journal*, Associate Editor
  - Patrick Michael Magann Public Interest Award
- B.B.A., Mississippi State University

Admissions

- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- New York
- Georgia
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Louisiana
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Louisiana
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Mississippi
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Mississippi
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Mississippi
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit

Elizabeth is associated with the Houston office for telephone and mail purposes only. She is not admitted in Texas.

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*Elizabeth works remotely and is licensed in Louisiana, practicing in New Orleans. Contact Elizabeth via email or phone for in-person/virtual meetings. Use our Houston address for mail/deliveries only.

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