

AUSTIN OFFICE

KELLEY KALCHTHALER

SHAREHOLDER

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“Knowledge is power. I empower my clients with practical advice that allows them to clearly assess costs and risks, and make more informed decisions.”



Kelley Kalchthaler focuses her practice on transactional matters for public schools and public entities, with emphasis on construction, real estate, procurement, and complex contractual issues. Kelley assists clients throughout every stage of the construction and procurement process—from drafting and negotiating contracts to advising on project delivery, risk allocation, compliance, and strategic planning. She also regularly counsels clients on real estate transactions, bond construction projects, and purchasing matters, ensuring they have practical, legally sound solutions that support long-term operational goals.

Drawing on her strong foundation in litigation, Kelley brings a uniquely informed perspective to her transactional work. She began her career in litigation for the firm, successfully representing public schools in both state and federal courts and working on construction disputes as well as employment, constitutional, and other school-related matters. This background allows her to identify and mitigate risks early, structure agreements that reduce potential exposure, and guide clients with clarity through areas where disputes most commonly arise.

Kelley also presents regularly on emerging legal issues involving artificial intelligence, helping school districts and public entities understand the rapidly evolving regulatory, procurement, and compliance implications of AI tools and technologies.

Before attending law school, Kelley taught math and English as a Second Language in the Plano Independent School District, giving her firsthand insight into the needs and challenges of educational institutions. During law school, she clerked with the Texas Association of School Boards, participated in mock trial, served as an editor for *The Review of Litigation*, and was inducted into the Order of Barristers for excellence in oral advocacy. Kelley also continues to serve as a mentor to law students at the University of Texas.

PRACTICE AREAS

Students
Litigation
Governance
Employment

EDUCATION

University of Texas School of Law (with honors)
Austin College in Sherman, Texas
Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and Spanish, summa cum laude

LICENSING & COURT ADMISSIONS

Licensed in the State of Texas
United States Fifth Circuit Court Appeals
United States District Court for Northern, Western, Eastern and Southern Districts of Texas

MEMBERSHIP

National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys
Texas Council of School Attorneys
State Bar of Texas, School Law Section and Labor and Employment Sections
Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Court
Houston Bar Association