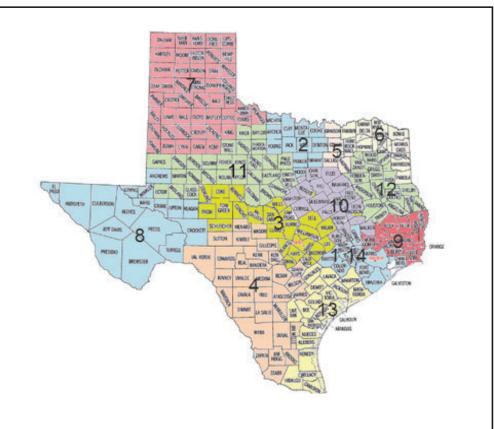
A Texas Appellate Judge's View of Employment Law Cases

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Overview of our intermediate courts of appeal:

- 14 courts of appeal
- No discretionary review consider all appeals
- Jurisdiction over civil, criminal, and family appeals from our state and county district courts
- Elected through partisan elections

Employment cases as percentage of docket (approximate)

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1st & 14th (Houston): 10-15% (based on Dallas figure)
2<sup>nd</sup> (Fort Worth):
                          1-5%
3<sup>rd</sup> (Austin):
                          5-10%
4<sup>th</sup> (San Antonio): <5%
5<sup>th</sup> (Dallas):
                          10-15%
6<sup>th</sup> (Texarkana):
                          1%
7<sup>th</sup> (Amarillo):
                          <1%
8<sup>th</sup> (El Paso)
                          15%
9<sup>th</sup> (Beaumont)
                          5-10%
10th (Waco):
                          1%
11<sup>th</sup> (Eastland):
                          1%
12th (Tyler):
                          <1%
13th (Corpus Christi): 5-10%
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Takeaway:

- Justices on these courts don't see a lot of employment law
- ... and many of these cases are non-competes / non-disclosure cases, not "traditional" employment law.
- So, err on the side of more information rather than less don't assume we know anything.

2018 elections changed the partisan makeup of the 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 14th COA:

- https://www.texastribune.org/2018/11/08/texas-courts-appeals-2018-midterms-beto-orourke/
- https://www.law360.com/articles/1100293/newly-blue-texas-appeals-courtscould-benefit-plaintiffs
- https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2018/11/11/conservative-texas-appellate-court-flips-blue-overnight-after-19-years-without-a-democrat-on-the-bench/
- https://www.statesman.com/news/20181106/democrats-sweep-3rd-court-of-appeals-races

1st Court of Appeals (Houston)

Place	Pre-2018 Election	Jan. 2019-current
1	Sherry Radack	Sherry Radack (R) (Chief Justice)
2	Jane Bland (R)	Gordon Goodman (D)
3	Russell Lloyd (R)	Russell Lloyd (R)
4	Evelyn Keyes (R)	Evelyn Keyes (R)
5	Laura Higley (R) (Ret.)	open
6	Harvey Brown (R)	Sarah Beth Landau (D)
7	Terry Jennings (D)	Julie Countiss (D)
8	Michael Massengale (R)	Richard Hightower (D)
9	Jennifer Caughey (R)	Peter Kelly (D)





Also available as part of the eCourse 2020 eConference on State and Federal Appeals

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the 30^{th} Annual Conference on State and Federal Appeals session "Appellate Judge's View of Employment Law Cases"