SCOTT DOUGLASS McCONNICO



Jane Webre

PARTNER

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Overview

Jane is an excellent appellate practitioner. Jane practices civil appellate law and handles most of the firm's appeals. Her practice also includes trial court litigation involving complex matters that present significant legal issues, including oil and gas litigation and land use regulation. Jane has argued appeals in the Supreme Court of the United States, the Fifth Circuit, the Supreme Court of Texas, and many of the courts of appeals around the state. Jane is also a frequent speaker at seminars involving appellate procedure issues and analysis of Texas Supreme Court opinions. Before joining the firm, Jane was a law clerk for the Hon. Reynaldo G. Garza of the Fifth Circuit.

Experience

Part of SDM trial team for U.S. travel technology company in multiple actions in Florida and Delaware involving claims under the Helms-Burton Act for alleged trafficking in real property confiscated by the Cuban government.

- August 2026, secured a complete defense verdict in one of the matters in Miami federal court
- September 2025, complete defense judgment in Miami federal court, reversing verdicts totaling $119 million.

Handled appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States from the Supreme Court of Texas. Won unanimous decision allowing state legal malpractice claims to be litigated in state court rather than federal court, even when the claim arises out of an underlying federal matter.

Handled appeal to the Supreme Court of Texas involving the standard for associational standing. Won reversal allowing client to pursue preemption claims.

Handled appeal to the Supreme Court of Texas involving the standard for defamation claims against media defendants. Won judgment affirming that media defendants retain a duty of accuracy when reporting on third party allegations.

Handled appeal involving interpretation of state “grandfathering” statute, Chapter 245 of Texas Local Government Code. Won judgment in the court of appeals construing statute to require identity of project under the statute, a significant favorable ruling for municipalities.

Handled appeal involving the question of whether subsurface fracking of a gas well can give rise to trespass claims. Won decision by Supreme Court of Texas rejecting such claims and reversing judgment for substantial actual and exemplary damages.

Handled appeal involving interpretation, application and interaction of Pugh, horizontal severance and pooling clauses in an oil and gas lease. Won reversal in the court of appeals of a summary judgment declaring lease termination.

Handled mandamus proceeding involving venue issues in the probate context. Won transfer of venue in the court of appeals that facilitated the ultimate favorable settlement of the case.

Selected Reported Cases

Texas Propane Gas Assoc. v. City of Houston, 622 SW3d 791 (Tex. 2021).

Fath v. Tex. Dept. of Transp., 924 F.3d132 (5th Cir. 2018).

Minton v. Gunn, 301 S.W.3d 702 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 2009), reversed, 355 S.W.3d 634 (Tex. 2011), reversed, 133 S.Ct. 1059 (2013).

Warren v. Chesapeake Exploration, LLC, 759 F.3d 413 (5th Cir. 2014).

Neely v. Wilson, 418 S.W.3d 52 (Tex. 2013).

Coastal Oil & Gas Corp. v. Garza Energy Trust, 268 S.W.3d 1 (Tex. 2008).

In Re Graham, 251 S.W.3d 844 (Tex. App.—Austin 2008, orig. proceeding).

FPL Energy Upton Wind I, L.P. v. City of Austin, 240 S.W.3d 456 (Tex. App.—Amarillo 2007, no pet.).

City of San Antonio v. En Seguido, Ltd., 227 S.W.3d 237 (Tex. App.—San Antonio 2007, no pet.).

Jackson v. West Telemarketing Corp. Outbound, 245 F.3d 518 (5th Cir. 2001), cert. denied, 122 S.Ct. 394 (2001).

Bank One, Texas v. U.S., 157 F.3d 397 (5th Cir. 1998).

Lenape Resources Corp. v. Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co., 925 S.W.2d 565 (Tex. 1996).

Coastal Oil & Gas Corporation v. Flores, 908 S.W.2d 517 (Tex. App.—San Antonio 1995, orig. proceeding).

Awards

- Outstanding Appellate Lawyer, Texas Bar Foundation, 2026
- Chambers USA Band 2 recognized practitioner in Litigation: Appellate, Texas, 2019-2026
- *Austin Monthly*, Austin’s Top Attorneys 2026
- Outstanding Achievement Award, Travis County Women Lawyers’ Association, 2025

- Selected as “Lawyer of the Year” by The Best Lawyers in America in Appellate Law, Austin, by BL Rankings, 2022
- Selected for the Best Lawyers in America® in Appellate Law, 2007-2027
- Member, American Law Institute
- Fellow, American Academy of Appellate Lawyers
- Member, State Bar of Texas, Women in the Profession Committee, 2018-2021 Term
- 2013 Litigation/Appellate Attorney Award, awarded by Travis County Women Lawyers’ Association
- Board Certification Civil Exam Commission in Civil Appellate Law, 2001-2005
- Texas Super Lawyers, a Thomson Reuters business, Civil Appellate Law, 2003 – 2026
- Top 50: Central/West Texas Super Lawyer, a Thomson Reuters business, 2015, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
- Top 50: Women Texas Super Lawyers, a Thomson Reuters business, 2008, 2009, 2015, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
- Top 100 Texas Super Lawyers, a Thomson Reuters business, 2015, 2022, 2025
- Past Council Member, Civil Appellate Section, State Bar of Texas
- Past Chair, Civil Appellate Section Travis County Bar Association

Articles & Presentations

- Conflicts, Disqualifications, and Chinese Walls, presented at the Austin Bar Association annual Holiday Ethics CLE, December, 2017
- A General Primer on Appeals
- Mandamus: When is There an Adequate Remedy at Law?
- Mandamus: What are the Odds?
- ¡Ya Basta! Ruminations on Trying the Patience of the Courts, The Appellate Advocate (Spring 2008)
- Due Process Constraints on Punitive Damage Awards: Are There Any? 55 Tex. Bar J. 14 (1992)

News & Insights

- U.S. Supreme Court Ruling - Patent Law Malpractice Issue
- Jane Webre and Robyn Hargrove at the Annual Conference on State and Federal Appeals
- Fortune 500 Oil & Gas Company - jury trial regarding breach of joint operating agreement
- SDM prevails in jury trial regarding breach of joint operating agreement
- The Top Women Attorneys in Texas 2020 - Super Lawyers
- SDM ranked Band 1 in 2020 Chambers USA
- SDM’s Jane Webre and Robyn Hargrove Secure Important Patent-Venue Win in the Federal Circuit
- SDM Ranked Band 1 in Chambers USA 2021
- SDM Lawyers Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America, 2022 Edition
- Congrats to our 2021 Texas Super Lawyers
- Chambers Guide Continues to Rank SDM in Top Tier
- 13 SDM Lawyers Recognized in Best Lawyers® 2023 Honors
- Congrats to our 2022 Texas Super Lawyers

- Chambers Guide Continues to Rank SDM in Top Tier
- Court of Appeals affirms $29M Disgorgement in cryptocurrency lawsuit
- SDM Lawyers Recognized In Best Lawyers® 2024
- Congrats to our 2023 Texas Super Lawyers
- SDM secures appellate victory in a mass action lawsuit
- Chambers Guide notes SDM as "a go-to litigation boutique in Austin."
- SDM Lawyers Recognized In Best Lawyers® 2025
- Congrats to our SDM 2024 Texas Super Lawyers
- Jane Webre receives TCWLA Outstanding Achievement Award
- SDM continues to be ranked in Chambers USA
- SDM appellate team prevails in an appeal involving a certified question from the Fifth Circuit to the Supreme Court of Texas.
- SDM Secures Victory in McMullen County Oil and Gas Jury Trial
- Court enters judgment following comprehensive trial victory by SDM in property negligence case
- SDM Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Best Lawyers® Awards and Best Lawyers Ones to Watch® in America
- SDM wins complete defense judgment in Miami federal court, reversing verdicts totaling $119 million
- Congrats to our SDM 2025 Texas Super Lawyers
- Jane Webre named Outstanding Appellate Lawyer by Texas Bar Foundation
- SDM continues to be ranked in Chambers USA
- Top Attorneys named by Austin Monthly Magazine 2026
- SDM Lawyers Recognized in 2027 Best Lawyers® Awards and Best Lawyers Ones to Watch® in America
- SDM Secures Complete Defense Verdict in latest Expedia Trial
- SDM Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Texas Super Lawyers®

Practice Areas

- Appellate
- Governmental Entity Litigation
- Oil & Gas Litigation
- Professional Malpractice, Licensing & Regulation
- Business Litigation & Torts

Education

- University of Texas, B.A. in Plan II, 1986
- University of Texas School of Law, J.D., 1989

Admissions

- Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, since 1996
- State Bar of Texas
- U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Districts of Texas

- U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Third, Fifth, Eighth, Ninth, Eleventh, Federal, and District of Columbia Circuits
- Supreme Court of the United States.

Activities

- Member, Civil Appellate Section, State Bar of Texas
- Member, Civil Appellate Section, Austin Bar Association
- Master, Robert W. Calvert Chapter, American Inns of Court, 2001-2007, 2020-present
- Executive Committee, University of Texas School of Law Alumni Association, 2014-2019
- Board of Trustees, The Long Center
- Board of Trustees, Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas
- Meals on Wheels, meal delivery volunteer