



## **Katherine K. Mudge, Partner**

Katherine's law practice covers regulatory, legislative and business issues facing providers of telecommunications, broadband, cable, wireless, and electric utility services. Katherine primarily advises businesses in Texas and other states regarding government and administrative law and policy, competitive issues, right-of-way disputes and litigation at both state agency and trial court levels. She also works with clients on business risk management in regulated environments to enable clients to minimize potential risk exposure while continuing to provide effective, efficient, and economical services.

Prior to joining the firm, Katherine was Executive Vice President and General Counsel of a national telecommunications company where she was responsible for all legal matters, advocacy, and business strategy for the company, including personnel policies and procedures, litigation, state and federal regulatory and legislative matters, contract negotiations and compliance with municipal, state, and federal rules and regulations. Katherine assisted the company (and its predecessors) with merger acquisitions, asset purchases, and analyses of a variety of operational and business topics. She also participated in state, regional, and nationwide carrier organizations involving legislative and regulatory efforts.

Katherine shares with her clients valuable experience she has gained both in the public sector and private practice. Katherine served as an Assistant General Counsel and an Administrative Law Judge at the Public Utility Commission of Texas for five years, where she worked on a wide range of electric and telecommunication matters including contested cases, complaints, and rulemaking proceedings, as well as serving as an advisor to Commissioners. Before that, Katherine worked for five years at the Railroad Commission of Texas, where she was a Senior Hearings Examiner and Assistant Special Counsel to the Commissioners where her responsibilities included gas utility regulation, oil and gas production, disposal well regulation, gas pipeline safety, and transportation.

In private practice, after attending Texas Tech School of Law, Katherine started out as a commercial business litigator at McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, and gravitated to administrative law and utility regulation. She worked for the Railroad Commission and Public Utility Commission of Texas holding positions ranging from Gas Utilities Hearings Examiner, Assistant Special Counsel, Staff Attorney, Senior Administrative Law Judge, and advisors to Commissioners at both agencies. After her time in the public sector, she joined a nationwide law firm establishing its Administrative Law Section in the Austin Office. Then, Katherine helped form a Texas-based law firm that focused primarily on utility regulation issues with a practice across the country in contract negotiations, arbitrations, contested case proceedings, and legislative advocacy.

Katherine enjoys time with her children and grandchildren, CASA, youth sports, and is a triathlete.



### **Education**

- Texas Tech School of Law
  - J.D., 1982
  - Order of Coif
  - Texas Tech Law Review, Staff and Lead Articles Editor
  - Board of Barristers and Moot Court Competition Participant (Oral and Briefs)
- University of Texas (Austin)
  - B.A. – Economics, 1979
  - University of Texas Debate Team

### **Professional and Community Activities**

- Administrative and Public Law Section – State Bar of Texas
  - Former Board Member, Officer, and Speaker
- Administrative Law Section – Travis County Bar Association
- Youth Coach and Mentor – variety of sports – Round Rock
- High Five Events – Triathlete and Volunteer at races and charity events