

Jeff

Partner

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Jeff Oldham is an experienced appellate attorney who has presented oral argument in the U.S. Supreme Court, Texas Supreme Court, federal appellate courts nationwide, and state courts of appeals throughout Texas. A former U.S. Supreme Court clerk, Jeff is a board-certified appellate specialist who has handled high-stakes appeals in a wide variety of subject matter areas, with a particular emphasis on energy and complex commercial litigation. He also regularly works with trial counsel to formulate pretrial and trial strategy, write dispositive motions, prepare jury charges, preserve error at trial, and handle post-trial proceedings.

Jeff has experience at the highest levels of state and federal government. He previously served as a law clerk to Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist of the U.S. Supreme Court and to Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. He also worked as Counsel to the U.S. Attorney General in the U.S. Department of Justice. Most recently, following a decade of appellate practice at Bracewell, Jeff served for more than three years as General Counsel in the Office of the Governor of the State of Texas, advising the Governor and his staff on a wide variety of issues and managing all litigation involving the Governor's office, including a substantial number of appeals. Jeff returned to Bracewell in 2021.

Among his various honors, Jeff was named a *Law360* Appellate MVP in 2015. He has been a frequent speaker and writer about appellate issues and is a Fellow in the Texas Supreme Court Historical Society.

Industries

[Energy](#)

Practices

[Litigation](#)

[Appellate Litigation](#)

Credentials

Education

- Notre Dame Law School, J.D., 2003, *magna cum laude*, *Order of the Coif*
- University of Wisconsin - Madison, B.S., B.A., 2000, *summa cum laude*, *with honors*

Bar Admissions

- Texas

Chambers USA

- Texas Litigation: Appellate, 2018, 2024

Lawdragon Inc.

- *Lawdragon 500 Leading Litigators in America*, Appellate, including Supreme Court, 2025

The Legal 500 US

- Dispute Resolution – Appellate: Courts of Appeals, 2016 – 2018, 2023 – 2024

Portfolio Media, Inc.

- *Law360*, MVP of the Year, Appellate, 2015

Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC

- *Benchmark Litigation*, US National Future Star, 2023 – 2025
- *Benchmark Litigation*, Texas Future Star, 2023 – 2025

BL Rankings

- *Best Lawyers*, Appellate Practice, 2014 – 2018, 2024 – 2025

Thomson Reuters

- *Texas Super Lawyers*, 2013 – 2017, 2024

Law Clerk to Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist of the U.S. Supreme Court, 2004 – 2005

Law Clerk to Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, 2003 – 2004

Northwestern University School of Law

- John Paul Stevens Award (first in class), 2003
- *Northwestern University Law Review*, Coordinating Articles Editor, 2003

University of Tulsa

- Faculty Honor Medal (first in class), 2000

Resources

Understanding <i>West Virginia v. EPA</i>, Part 1: The Opinions

Podcast

Understanding <i>West Virginia v. EPA</i>, Part 2: The Impact

Podcast

To Clerk or Not to Clerk With Jeff Oldham and Anouk Nouet

Podcast

Fifth Circuit's Constitutional Carve-Back of the SEC's ALJ Enforcement Proceedings Likely to Lead to More Federal Court Cases

Update

Publications & Speeches

- "A Conversation with Fifth Circuit Judge Andy Oldham," by Hon. Andrew S. Oldham & Jeffrey L. Oldham, *Houston Bar Association Appellate Practice Section*, July 2023.
- "Percolating Appellate Conflicts Among The Texas Appellate Courts: Challenges for Trial Advocacy," *State Bar of Texas Advanced Civil Trial Course*, 2017.
- "U.S. Supreme Court: Recent 'Bill of Rights' Cases and the Scalia Impact," *State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting*, July 2017 and *State Bar of Texas 11th Annual Bill of Rights Course: Litigating the Constitution*, May 2017.