ANDREW TATGENHORST

PARTNER • AUSTIN

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512-615-2352

Andrew has spent the entirety of his legal career in school law, serving the needs of school districts in a variety of capacities. His enduring passion for this field stems from his unwavering commitment to those dedicated to the future of Texas public schools and our children.

Andrew focuses his practice on the representation of school districts, and other educational entities, in all aspects of school law with particular emphasis on special education and disability law. He serves as general counsel to numerous school clients, delivering effective counsel on a wide variety of legal issues as the need arises. He also serves as special education counsel, where he regularly attends Admission, Review, and Dismissal meetings and represents schools in special education mediations, due process hearings, agency complaints, and court proceedings.

Prior to representing school districts, Andrew was a legal editor with LRP Publications; the leading national resource for special education conferences, trainings, and publications. In that role he was tasked with monitoring trends in special education law and developing educational content for school administrators and lawyers, including authoring numerous books and articles.

In addition to his work with Texas public schools, Andrew also serves as General Counsel to several stand-alone Library Districts established through the Texas Local Government Code.

SELECTED CLIENT REPRESENTATIONS

Represents districts in special education due process hearings, mediations, and agency complaints.

Counsels districts on many aspects of education law, including employment matters, special education, student discipline, public records law, FERPA, and complaints of discrimination and retaliation by students and staff.

Conducted oral argument before the Fifth Circuit on behalf of Amicus Curiae Texas Association of School Boards Legal Assistance Fund.

Drafted numerous briefs on behalf of Amicus Curiae Texas Association of School Boards Legal Assistance Fund in the Fifth Circuit on special education matters.

Successfully represented districts in multiple complaints filed with the Special Education Department of the Texas Education Agency involving numerous claims.

Successfully represented school district in special education lawsuit through a Fifth Circuit appeal.

Successfully defended school districts against charges filed in a variety of federal and state administrative agencies.

REPRESENTATIVE PRESENTATIONS, TRAININGS, & SPEECHES

The School Nurse's Role in Supporting Students with Disabilities, TCASE Great Ideas

More than Band-Aids, Bumps, and Bruises The School Law First Aid Kit for School Nurses, Thompson & Horton Webinar

PRACTICE AREAS

General Counsel / Board Counsel
Litigation
Special Education & Disability Law
Special Investigations
Student Athletics
Student Issues
Training & Compliance

EDUCATION

J.D., The University of Pittsburgh, 2010

B.A., Washington & Jefferson College, 2007

LICENSING & COURT ADMISSIONS

Licensed in the state of Texas

Licensed in the state of Florida

U.S. District Court for the Southern, Northern, Western, and Eastern Districts of Texas

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

MEMBERSHIPS & RECOGNITIONS

State Bar of Texas, School Law Section

Texas Association of School Boards — Council of School Attorneys

Thompson & Horton LLP

ATTORNEYS | COUNSELORS

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REPRESENTATIVE PRESENTATIONS, TRAININGS, & SPEECHES (CONTINUED)

Preparing for Life After the IDEA: Practical Tips for Legally Compliant Transition Planning, LRP National Institute on Legal Issues of Educating Individuals with Disabilities

Liability Concerns for Special Education Personnel, TCASE Conference on Special Education Law

Who, When, and How of Compensatory Education Awards, TCASE Great Ideas Convention

Bullying and David's Law: An Administrative Guide to Compliance with State and Federal Laws, TASA Mid-Winter Conference

What School Boards Need to Know About Special Education Law, TASA/TASB Convention

Building a Case for the Recovery of Attorney's Fees, LRP Special Education School Attorneys Conference

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS

Discipline Scenarios: Navigating the IDEA Procedural Framework (59-page book) (LRP Publications, 2019).

Prior Written Notice Under the IDEA: Who, When and How? (55-page book)(LRP Publications, 2017).

School Districts' Guide to Postsecondary Transition for Students with Disabilities (42-page book) (LRP Publications, 2016).

Discipline Dilemmas: Your Guide to Avoiding the Top IDEA and Section 504 Mistakes (101-page book) (LRP Publications, 2014).

What Do I Do When… The Answer Book on Special Education Law (480-page book) (LRP Publications, 2014).