



Commercial Litigation Co-Chair, Chisara Ezie-Boncoeur engages in all phases of complex commercial litigation and alternative dispute resolution. She has represented individuals and companies as plaintiff and defendant in the course of her career, so she knows both sides and what moves need to be made – just like sitting at a poker table – and strategizes for her clients accordingly.

Chisara is dynamic and able to pivot quickly. This lends itself well to the fact that she considers herself not solely a litigator, but a trial lawyer by trade. She is not only confident in but is completely at ease in the courtroom. Frankly, it is where she prefers to be – assisting her clients throughout the life cycle of their case, including pre-trial matters, various hearings and trial.

She forms strong relationships with her clients, made up of a diverse list of corporations, corporate officers, and individuals involved in a variety of litigation matters, partially because she is quickly able to learn the nuances of their businesses. She represents clients who operate in wide ranging industries, applying the law to their unique business needs.

On a regular basis, Chisara conducts depositions, witness preparation, discovery, legal analysis, and negotiations, and drafts pleadings, briefs, demand letters, along with engaging in motion practice. She has also been involved with evidentiary hearings and multiple temporary restraining orders (TROs) and the like.

Chisara has first- and second-chaired evidentiary hearings and first-chaired an appellate oral argument. She has also successfully argued various motions before state court, cross-examined key witnesses in a federal trial and obtained a judgement as a matter of law. She also has experience in alternative dispute resolution and has favorably resolved matters, including multimillion dollar disputes.

Chisara's calming presence and strong listening skills stand out to her clients, as they can see that she is easily able to break down complex legal issues and make them more digestible for them – and for a jury. She

Chisara Ezie-Boncoeur

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EDUCATION

Columbia Law School, (J.D.), Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law certificate, Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar, editorial board of Columbia Journal of Race and Law, editor and participant in the Frederick Douglass Moot Court, Earl Warren Scholar, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, 2014

Cornell University, (A.B.), anthropology, double minor in inequality studies and Spanish, cum laude, 2009

BAR ADMISSIONS

Texas

Indiana

New York

New Jersey

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

U.S. District Courts for the Northern District of Texas

U.S. District Courts for the Southern District of Texas

is able to prepare her clients for court by helping them understand what is at stake, how to approach those issues and how to seek out the best possible outcome.

Prior to joining the firm, Chisara practiced with prominent law firms in Dallas and New York in the areas of commercial litigation and intellectual property, in state and federal court.

Outside of her practice, Chisara is passionate about education. She is also deeply invested in corporate social responsibility, striving to make a difference in areas of social development such as financial hardship and job creation. She started her career working as a legal intern with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and as a legal fellow with The Sustainable Development Institute in Liberia. She also helped develop strategic recommendations for economic development initiatives in Ecuador and Ghana.

A former resident of Dallas, Chisara currently resides in South Bend, Indiana, with her husband, who is a professor at the University of Notre Dame.

Professional and Community Involvement

Southern regional chair, Cornell Black Lawyers Alumni Network

Graduate, Dallas Bar Associate We Lead Program

Member, Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network

Member, The New Roundtable

Member, American Bar Association

Member, Dallas Bar Association We Lead

Former associate, Higginbotham Inn of Court

Honors

The Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch, 2021-2024

Texas Super Lawyers Rising Star, 2021-2024

National Black Lawyers, Top 40 Under 40 in Texas, 2020

National Diversity Council, Dallas Top Women in Legal, 2019

U.S. District Courts for the Eastern District of Texas

U.S. District Courts for the Western District of Texas

U.S. District Courts for the Southern District of New York

U.S. District Courts for the Eastern District of New York

U.S. District Courts for the Western District of New York

U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana

LANGUAGES

English

Spanish

PRACTICES

Financial and Regulatory Litigation

Litigation

INDUSTRIES

University and Professional Athletics