

## People



## Christy S. Hawkins

Partner, Consumer Financial Services, Data and Technology (CFS+)

Dallas

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vCard

Christy Hawkins (CIPP/US, CIPP/E, CIPM, CIPT, FIP, PLS) focuses her practice on privacy, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and incident response. She advises clients on state, federal, and international data security and privacy issues, including compliance and risk management. She supports organizations of all sizes and in various market sectors, including e-commerce, education, entrepreneurship, financial institutions, franchise, healthcare, hospitality, human resources, insurance, managed services, market data, pharmaceutical, property management, real estate, software/SaaS, security, sports organization, staffing, and technology. Christy conducts risk assessments and prepares key documentation, such as incident response plans, privacy policies and notices, and contracts addressing privacy and cybersecurity and beyond.

Christy also advises clients on artificial intelligence and works with clients in the trenches throughout the AI lifecycle. Her work with AI includes governance, audits, impact assessments, compliance, and lifecycle planning, as well as ad hoc issues that businesses experience when developing or monitoring use of AI.

As a first responder to potential data breaches and privacy incidents, Christy helps companies investigate, evaluate, respond, and recover. Her work includes completing investigations; identifying and coordinating with vendors to provide forensics, identity monitoring and restoration, and call centering services; evaluating legal and regulatory obligations; preparing notification communications; and engaging in reviews for lessons learned following incidents.

Christy also helps clients with regulatory compliance. She addresses issues involving federal and state regulations—including the New York Department of Financial Services (NYDFS) Cybersecurity Regulations, the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), the California Privacy Rights Act (CPRA), and international regulations including the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

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### Areas of Experience

Consumer Financial Services, Data and Technology (CFS+)  
 Financial Services  
 Data Privacy and Security  
 Corporate Theft

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### Education

Graduate Certificate, University of Texas at Austin, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning: Business Applications, 2023  
 J.D., Baylor Law School, 2013, cum laude  
 B.A., University of North Texas, Political Science, 2009

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### Admissions

#### Bars

Texas  
 Arkansas

#### Courts

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas  
 U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas  
 U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas  
 U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Arkansas  
 U.S. District Court, Western District of Arkansas  
 U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

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### Related Content

[Christy Hawkins to Speak on the Balance of Innovation, Risk, and Opportunity in the Age of Generative AI](#)  
 May 07, 2025

[Akerman Attorneys Explain DOJ's New AI Guidance](#)  
 October 24, 2024

[Akerman Hosts Seminar on Embracing Artificial Intelligence: Six Key Concepts for Compliance in Regulated Industries](#)  
 September 17, 2024

Christy is recognized as a Fellow of Information Privacy (FIP) by the International Association of Privacy Professionals and holds Certified Information Privacy Professional/United States (CIPP/US), Certified Information Privacy Professional/Europe (CIPP/E), Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM), and Certified Information Privacy Technologist (CIPT) credentials. Christy has also earned the IAPP's ABA-accredited Privacy Law Specialist (PLS) designation.

## Published Work and Lectures

- Truist Legal Leadership Summit, Speaker, “The Disruptive Imperative: Mastering the Balance of Innovation, Risk, and Opportunity in the Age of Generative AI,” May 7, 2025
- *Bloomberg Law*, Co-Author, “DOJ Expects Companies to Minimize Risk of AI Blunders, Misconduct,” October 24, 2024
- Exterro Webcast, Speaker, “Data Risk & Resilience: Navigating the Nexus Between Privacy, Cybersecurity, AI & Litigation,” April 25, 2024
- IAPP Global Privacy Summit 2024, Speaker, “Ease the Tension: Leverage Powerful New Technologies & Respect Data Minimization,” April 4, 2024
- Exterro Webcast, Speaker, “Privacy Bytes: Navigating the Imperative: Should Vendors Be Mandated to Implement Data Discovery?” March 21, 2024
- Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) Legal Update, Speaker, “AI Update: Regulations, Reports, and Red Flags,” February 1, 2024
- Exterro Webcast, Speaker, “Privacy Bytes: AI and Privacy – Applying your Program to AI’s Challenges,” October 19, 2023
- Association of Corporate Counsel’s (ACC) Houston 2023 Annual Symposium, Speaker, “The Important Role Legal Plays in an Era of Growing Data Risks (Privacy, Cyber, Litigation): Key Findings from the 2023 ACC CLO Report,” August 17, 2023
- IAPP Webinar, Speaker, “AI & Ethics: New Developments, Regulatory Considerations & Ethical Obligations,” August 9, 2023
- Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) Webinar, Speaker, “AI & Ethics: New Developments, Regulatory Considerations & Ethical Obligations,” August 2, 2023
- ASA Staffing Law Conference Session, Co-Presenter, “The IT Factor: Emerging Technologies and Potential Liability,” May 18, 2023
- Akerman LLP and Exterro Dinner Network & Learn Event, Speaker, “Important Role Legal Plays in an Era of Growing Data Risks,” April 18, 2023
- Exterro Webcast, Speaker, “Building a Legal and Business Case for Data Inventory,” March 15, 2023
- Association of Corporate Counsel Webinar, Speaker, “Next Gen Privacy: Breathing Life into Your Legacy Inventory Process,” November 30, 2022
- International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP), Virtual Dallas KnowledgeNet, Co-Presenter, “The Current State of U.S. Consumer Privacy Laws,” September 15, 2022
- Association for Corporate Counsel’s (ACC) Houston Annual Symposium 2022, Speaker, “Data Risks in The Great Resignation: Data Subject Access Requests (DSAR), Data Exfiltrations, and the Costs of Compliance,” August 18, 2022
- Dallas Bar Association, SciTech Section, Speaker, “The Current State of Privacy,” July 25, 2022
- HKA and USI Insurance Services, Webinar, Speaker, “Cybersecurity & Privacy Risks for Construction Firms,” July 12,

2022

- ARMA Houston Spring Conference, Speaker, “Privacy Risks for B2B Companies,” April 27, 2022
- San Antonio Young Lawyers Association (SAYLA), Speaker, “The State of Data Privacy in the U.S.,” March 22, 2022
- Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC), Speaker, “What does Schrems II Mean for Third Party Transfers?” March 3, 2022
- International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP) Web Conference, Speaker, “Privacy 2022: Priorities, Challenges & Opportunities,” February 24, 2022
- Akerman Webinar, Co-Presenter, “State Privacy Laws and Federal Privacy Regulations: How to Operationalize Compliance,” November 30, 2021
- Ankura, Women’s Leadership Forum Fall Speaker Webinar Series, Speaker, “The Intersection of Cybersecurity and Privacy,” November 17, 2021
- Brazilian-American Chamber of Commerce of Florida (BACCF) and the Business and Innovation Committee Webinar, Speaker, “The Hidden Virtual Enemy: Cybersecurity Update,” October 26, 2021
- Pratt’s Privacy & Cybersecurity Law Report, Co-Author, “French Court Provides Guidance on Data Transfer Safeguards and Sufficient Protections Against Access Requests from U.S. Authorities,” Volume 7, No.8, October 2021
- Pratt’s Privacy & Cybersecurity Law Report, Co-Author, “Recent Cybersecurity and Ransomware Guidance That Every Business Should Be Reviewing,” Volume 7, No. 8, October 2021
- PrivacyConnect, Community Chapter Webinar, Speaker, “Best Practices in Privacy Contracting,” September 28, 2021
- *Intellectual Property & Technology Law Journal*, Co-Author, “New York State’s New Cyber Insurance Risk Framework,” May 2021
- Akerman Labor & Employment Law Virtual Summit, Breakout Co-Moderator, “Data Security and Privacy: Legal Requirements and Training Your First Line of Defense,” April 22, 2021
- NACD Florida Virtual Roundtable, Panelist, “Cybersecurity Oversight: Are You Prepared?” March 17, 2021
- IAPP Jacksonville Knowledge Net, Co-Presenter, “COVID-19 Isn’t the Only Virus You Have to Worry About... Privacy and Cybersecurity Perspectives During the Pandemic,” October 22, 2020
- Akerman Women’s In House Network Webinar, Co-Presenter, “Don’t Get Caught in the Plate Tectonic Shift of U.S. Privacy Law,” July 14, 2020
- PEO Capital Summit, Speaker, “Ethics Session: Cyber Security & Privacy in a Remote Workforce World,” May 20, 2021
- Akerman Webinar, Panelist, “COVID-19 and the New World of Data Privacy: Key Strategies to Navigate the Pandemic in the Workplace,” May 5, 2020

## Affiliations

- International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP)
  - KnowledgeNet Chapter, Co-Chair, 2022-2024
  - Privacy Bar Section Advisory Board, Member, 2024-2026
  - Privacy Law Specialist Advisory Board, Member, 2024-2026
  - Certified Information Privacy Professional/United States (CIPP/US)
  - Certified Information Privacy Professional/Europe (CIPP/E)

- Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM)
- Certified Information Privacy Technologist (CIPT)
- Fellow of Information Privacy (FIP)
- Privacy Law Specialist (PLS)
- Dallas Bar Association, Member
- Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, Member
- State Bar of Texas, Member
- State Bar of Arkansas, Member
- American Bar Association, Member
- Texas Bar Association, Eastern District, Member

## Honors and Distinctions

- *The Best Lawyers in America* 2023, Listed in Texas for Commercial Litigation as “One to Watch”
- *Super Lawyers* Magazine 2020-2023, Listed in Texas as a “Rising Star” for Consumer Law; 2017-2019, Listed in Texas as a “Rising Star” for Intellectual Property Litigation
- International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP), Certified Information Privacy Professional/United States (CIPP/US), Certified Information Privacy Professional/Europe (CIPP/E), Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM), Fellow of Information Privacy (FIP), Privacy Law Specialist (PLS)