

People



Jason B. Heep

Partner, Litigation

Dallas

T: 214 720 4317

jason.heep@akerman.com

vCard

Jason Heep has litigated and resolved commercial disputes, complex insurance-coverage issues, and environmental-remediation matters across the country for more than 20 years. He uses his environmental-engineering background to assist with environmental-regulatory compliance and preventive measures to avoid disputes and mitigate future risks.

Jason counsels clients in claims-administration and policy-analysis matters. He has extensive experience with a wide variety of insurance claims, including environmental liabilities, asbestos, mass-tort claims, property damage, and business interruption. Jason has experience litigating CERCLA contribution and enforcement actions. He also is at the forefront of novel insurance issues like COVID-19 claims and emerging contaminants including PFAS.

Jason also focuses on mitigating potential loss exposures, such as the use of subrogation strategies, reinsurance recoveries, policy buybacks, asset sales, regulatory relief, and real estate workouts. He also handles other forms of risk-transfer devices, such as reinsurance treaties, contractual indemnities, and surety bonds.

In addition to his litigation and coverage practice, Jason regularly conducts lectures and training seminars for claims and underwriting staff on emerging insurance-coverage issues and best practices for claims handling.

Notable Work

Insurance Coverage Litigation: Secured summary judgment in federal court confirming that an insurer had no coverage obligation to two energy companies under an environmental remediation policy on a \$100 million claim, and successfully defended that judgment on appeal to the Fifth Circuit.

Arbitration: Successfully represented a client in arbitrations involving hundreds of securitized commercial real estate loans

Areas of Experience

- Litigation
- Insurance Litigation
- Environmental Litigation
- PFAS Litigation and Regulatory Counseling

Education

- J.D., University of Virginia School of Law, 2003
- B.S., Northwestern University, Environmental Engineering, 1996

Admissions

Bars

- Texas
- Colorado
- District of Columbia
- Wyoming

Courts

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas

Related Content

Texas Supreme Court Carves Out Narrow Exception to "Eight-Corners" Rule
February 22, 2022

Akerman LLP Expands Litigation Practice Group with Partner Jason Heep in Dallas
May 21, 2021

insured under secured creditor policies.

Settlement Negotiations: Negotiated settlements between clients and regulators for mining, oil & gas, and disposal sites.

Bad Faith Litigation: Won dismissal of a bad faith lawsuit brought against an insurer by a lender in Puerto Rico. The trial court found that the lender failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted as a matter of Puerto Rico law that was affirmed on appeal.

CERCLA: Filed and defended multiple CERCLA contribution lawsuits on behalf of clients.

Environmental Liability: Resolved issues for clients involved in brownfield redevelopment and claims for clean-up costs and liability under cost cap and environmental impairment liability policies.

Related Professional Experience

- Judicial Clerk to The Honorable James C. Cacheris, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia, 2003-2004

Affiliations

- Peace Corps, Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, Volunteer