



Peter Stokes

Partner, Norton Rose Fulbright - Austin

A partner in the Austin office, Peter Stokes has spent his entire career representing clients in securities lawsuits and other complex commercial litigation, arbitration and appellate matters. He has substantial experience defending clients against shareholder class and derivative lawsuits involving numerous issues, including financial restatements, mergers and acquisitions, going private transactions, auction rate securities, IPO litigation, tender offers and cases involving allegations of GAAP violations, insider trading, antitrust and regulatory violations, "channel stuffing," options backdating, illegal short sales and breaches of fiduciary duty. Peter also enjoys speaking and publishing on securities-related issues and has co-authored the annual State Bar of Texas Fifth Circuit Securities Update for seven consecutive years, as well as three recent guest columns in Securities Law 360 and two recent articles in the Journal of Taxation and Regulation of Financial Institutions. Peter was also featured in an April 12, 2011, article in Compliance Week addressing the Supreme Court's recent decision in *Matrixx Initiatives, Inc. v. Siracusano*.

In addition to defending against shareholder lawsuits, Peter has successfully represented clients in Sherman Act cases, qui tam actions under the False Claims Act, complex commercial disputes involving supply and "earnout" contracts, commercial foreclosures and other complex commercial matters. Peter also gained significant trial experience through the attorney loan program with the City of Austin Municipal Prosecutor's Office, having tried more than 15 misdemeanor jury trials to verdict. Peter has also represented clients in several major appellate matters in the Texas courts of appeals and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Peter's clients include brokerage firms, energy companies, retailers, hospitals and individual officers and directors.

Peter joined the Houston office in 2001 and relocated to the Austin office in August 2005. Previously, Peter served a one-year judicial clerkship for Justice Craig T. Enoch of the Supreme Court of Texas.