

GODWIN BOWMAN & MARTINEZ



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South Texas College of
Law, J.D., 2015

The University of Texas at
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Practice Areas

- Bankruptcy Disputes
- Civil Litigation
- Banking and
Financial Institution
Litigation
- Business &
Commercial
Litigation

Heather L. Winkles is an Associate attorney at Godwin Bowman & Martinez, based in the Firm's Dallas office, representing creditors across the state of Texas with a results-oriented focus. The emphasis of Heather's practice is on efficient collateral recovery for automotive finance companies and national banking associations.

Heather's representation in the area of bankruptcy and creditor rights includes protecting lienholders in title issues, often involving the resolution of duplicate titles obtained by fraud and the restoration of omitted liens on title; settling priority disputes between creditors; the prevention of forfeiture and the recovery of impounded vehicles by the State of Texas and federal agencies; and asserting lienholders' rights in inclusion as a loss payee on insurance claim checks. Her representation commences in negotiations for reduction in towing, repair and storage charges and continues in state courts across Texas where she challenges towing, repair and storage liens.

Her practice also includes defense against alleged consumer rights violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Texas Debt Collection Act and the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act.

Heather earned her Bachelor of Arts in Government at The University of Texas at Austin and a Business Foundations Program Certificate from the Red McCombs School of Business. She earned her Doctor of Jurisprudence at South Texas College of Law and a Forty-Hour Basic Mediation Certificate from the Frank Evans Center for Conflict Resolution. While in law school, Heather was a Member of the *CURRENTS: International Trade Law Journal*. She secured a spot on the Dean's Honor List, was a finalist in mock trial competitions and was awarded the CALI Award for Excellence, ranking highest in her class in the area of legal ethics.

Heather served as a Judicial Intern for the 311th District Court in Harris County, Texas. However, the most beloved moment of her law school career came as a participant in a study abroad program in Galway, Ireland, where she took direct instruction from United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. As a law student of Justice Scalia, she learned to unveil the frequent legal arguments that the late Justice said, “will come before the Court clad, so to speak, in sheep's clothing” and to vehemently cry out when the, “wolf comes as a wolf.”

Admissions

- Texas State Courts, 2016

Legal Memberships

- Dallas Bar Association
- Dallas Association of Young Lawyers
- State Bar of Texas