

Bryant S. Banes
Managing Partner

Phone: (713) 629-1800

Fax: (713) 629-1812

E-Mail: bbanes@nhblaw.com

Bryant Banes litigates all types of civil matters before federal and state courts and boards, and has briefed and argued numerous times before U.S. and State Courts of Appeal. He has unique and extensive expertise in all matters arising out of government contracts, including business development and teaming, performance and workforce issues, compliance, fiscal matters, audits and investigations, and litigation.

Before joining Neel, Hooper & Banes as a shareholder in 2006, Bryant defended complex litigation of all types, including nationwide class actions, in private practice. From 1998 - 2002, Bryant was with the U.S. Department of Justice, where he was a trial attorney representing the United States government. While at the Department of Justice, he successfully prosecuted or defended multi-million dollar government contract and employment claims. He has extensive experience, and is a frequent author and lecturer in the areas of government procurement law and federal employment law.

Prior to his stint with the Justice Department, Bryant served his country as a JAG officer in the U. S. Army for eight years on active duty, and retired in 2010 at the rank of lieutenant colonel. As a military attorney, Lieutenant Colonel Banes has led and conducted complex and diverse contract litigation before the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals and protests before the Government Accountability Office, the Small Business Administration, and the Federal Courts. He served as the Pentagon's expert on consumer law and estate planning during his tenure there, and drafted regulations and legislation regarding same. He also supervised a legal office responsible for meeting the legal needs of 60,000 soldiers, retirees, and their family members. He prepared numerous troops prior to their deployment overseas in Operation Desert Storm, participated in the relief effort for civilians in Hurricane Andrew, and led a team of attorneys providing free probate assistance to the families of the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon. During 2004, he served a one-year tour as the Chief of Procurement and Fiscal Law and the Legal Advisor to the Chief Engineer in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Unit Citation, and the Combat Action Badge. In his final tour, Bryant served as Ethics and Fiscal Counsel in the U.S. Army's Office of General Counsel.

Bryant Banes has taught as an adjunct professor at both George Mason University and the U.S. Army's Judge Advocate General's School, earned the Parachute Badge from the U.S. Army Airborne School, and graduated from both the U.S. Army's Contract Attorneys Course, and Command and General Staff College. He is a member of the American Bar Association's Public Contract Law Section, and the National Contract Management Association's Space City Chapter.

Mr. Banes is recognized as a leader in his field in Chambers USA. He maintains an AV® preeminent rating by the Martindale-Hubbell peer review. Mr. Banes was also named a *BTI Client Service All-Star*; of the 307 nationally named attorneys, he was the only one recognized in the area of government contract compliance.



Areas of Practice

Government Procurement and Fiscal Law
Compliance/Due Diligence
Small Business Programs
Government Audits and Investigations
Government Contract Litigation
Wage and Hour Litigation, Including
Prevailing Wages
Competition and Trade Secret Law
Labor-Management Relations
Alternative Dispute Resolution and Arbitration

Education

JD - Louisiana State University, 1990
BS - Kansas State University, 1987

Professional Credentials

Licensed – State of Texas, 2002
Licensed – State of Louisiana, 1990
Board Certified – Labor & Employment Law

Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court
U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Veterans Claims
U.S. Court of Appeals, Armed Forces
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit
U.S. Court of Federal Claims
U.S. Court of International Trade
U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
U.S. District Courts, Eastern, Northern,
Southern & Western Districts of Texas,
U.S. District Court, Western District of
Colorado & District of Columbia
Texas and Louisiana Supreme Courts

Memberships

ABA Public Contract Law Section
State Bar of Texas, Labor & Employment Law
and Military Law Sections
HBA Labor & Law Section
Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America
Member, Wage & Hour Defense Institute