

Pete Winstead

Shareholder Chair, Government Relations Practice Group

Practices: Government Relations; Alternate & Renewable Energy Industries: Emerging & Mid-Market Companies; P3, Infrastructure & Project Finance

Pete Winstead is a founding shareholder of Winstead PC. His early professional career was in the field of federal taxation and related matters, and as a former chair of the Section of Taxation, State Bar of Texas, he remains active in advising clients on many corporate and business transactional matters, but primarily in a planning strategies role.

In 1997, Pete was appointed by Governor Bush to be the first chair of the Texas Turnpike Authority (TTA). During his tenure at TTA, he led efforts in getting Records of Decision on the four element toll road (SH 130, SH 45, Loop 1 and US 183A) project known as the Central Texas Turnpike Project. Pete also led efforts on a \$800 million TIFIA loan, as well as negotiated over \$600 million in local contributions for the right-of-way and utility relocations. He was one of the founders and first Chair of the Capital Area Transportation Commission (CATC) to involve the private sector in effective advocacy for toll roads and other highway infrastructure. Additionally, Pete chaired the Citizens for Mobility effort to secure approval of the Phase 2 toll road plan at CAMPO, as proposed by the CTRMA and TxDOT.

As a founder of the firm's Austin office, he has become active in working with early stage and "start-up" companies that need appropriate mentoring on financial backing, management procurement and legal matters. Many of these companies have become important mainstream clients for Winstead. The firm guided Dell Computer Corporation through its initial public offering and its dealing with municipalities on the concessions related to the company's relocation to Round Rock, Texas. Pete remains active in personal legal matters for the founders of that company, many of whom have become venture capital players. His major involvement in civic, political and philanthropic matters in the Austin area has made him a "go to" person to secure the award of various projects from political entities in the region or just to position a client to understand and succeed in the Central Texas area. He has been part of building winning teams to secure and build public facilities and infrastructure and has become active in the public private partnership arena.

Representative Experience

- Taxation
- Procurement of public projects
- Venture capital and early stage companies
- Legal oversight for high net worth individuals
- Ad valorem tax appeals for high net worth individuals

Professional & Community Service

- American Bar Association
- State Bar of Texas



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Education

University of Texas School of Law

- LL.B., 1965
- Associate Editor, Texas Law Review

Stanford University

- B.A., 1962



- Dallas Bar Association
- Austin Bar Association
- Greater Austin Crime Commission (Board Member; President Elect, 2018)
- Economic Development Corporation (Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce) (Past Board Member)
- Greater Austin-San Antonio Corridor Council
- Austin Area Research Organization (Board Member)
- Capital Area Council, Boy Scouts of America (Past Board Member)
- KLRU-Public Television (Past Board Member)
- St. Edwards University (Past Chair of the Board of Trustees and Current Board Member)
- United Way/Capital Area (2000 Campaign Chair and Past Board Member)
- C5 Foundation Texas (Past Board Chair, Camp Coca-Cola)
- American Heart Association (Board Member)
- Dell Seton Medical Center at The University of Texas (Chair, President's Council and Chair, Capital Campaign Committee; President Elect, May 2018)

Awards & Recognition

- The Best Lawyers in America, (BL Rankings, LLC), 2021-2024
- Austin Bar Association "Distinguished Lawyer Award," 2014
- The Austin Council of The Anti-Defamation League "Jurisprudence Award," 2011
- NanotxUSA'08 Award, 2008
- Colorado River Foundation-"Kids on the Colorado" Recipient, 2008
- Neal Kocurek Award, 2008
- ABJ Lifetime Achievements Awards, 2006
- Boy Scouts of America "Community Champion Award," 2006
- Capitol Area Council Boy Scouts of America "Distinguished Citizen Award," 2005
- Mayor of Mobility, Austin Business Journal, 2005
- 25 Most Influential People in Austin and Central Texas for the Past 25 years, Austin Business Journal, 2005
- Texas Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters, 2005 and 2006
- Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce Austinite of the Year, 2004

Admissions

Texas, 1965