



## Jennifer Barks

Partner

[jbarks@kellydrye.com](mailto:jbarks@kellydrye.com)

Houston  
(713) 355-5000

## About

Jennifer Barks is an experienced and strategic advocate whose litigation practice spans an expansive range of environmental, commercial, and energy-related matters. In federal and state courtrooms across the country, before arbitration panels, and in government investigations and enforcement actions, Jennifer balances advancing her clients' interests with protecting their bottom lines.

In her environmental litigation practice, Jennifer represents states, sovereigns, and private companies in complex environmental and civil cases, including pursuing contamination-related and natural resource damage claims under CERCLA, product liability, and other tort theories.

Jennifer has also defended companies in enforcement actions and criminal investigations spearheaded by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Department of Justice. Her environmental work also includes issues related to per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and forever chemicals, including pursuing contamination and natural resource damages on behalf of private and public clients in standalone lawsuits and in the AFFF Multidistrict Litigation.

Jennifer's commercial litigation experience extends across a broad spectrum of industries and issues, including complex matters involving contract disputes, fraud and breach of fiduciary duty allegations, and wrongful termination claims. She has a strong track record of obtaining favorable outcomes in court, arbitration, and other alternative dispute resolution forums.

Never losing sight of her clients' goals and priorities, Jennifer strives for efficiency and effectiveness in her representation. She provides clear direction and succinct, timely communication, ensuring her clients have the information they need to make informed decisions.

## Honors

Ranked as one of the leading practitioners in the Environmental area by *Chambers USA* in 2021-2024.

*The Best Lawyers in America*<sup>©</sup> "Ones to Watch" (Woodward/White, Inc.), Environmental Law, 2022-2024.

Recommended in *US Legal 500* for her work in the Environment Litigation area, 2020.

# Affiliations

Houston Bar Association, Environmental Law Section, Chair, 2022-2023

## Related Services

Environmental  
Environmental Litigation  
Environmental Regulation  
Environmentally Impaired Properties  
PFAS and Emerging Contaminants  
Public Sector and Government Entities

## Education

University of Houston Law Center, J.D., 2013

- magna cum laude
- Houston Law Review, line editor

Washington University in St. Louis, B.A., 2010

- Spanish and Political Science

## Admissions

Texas  
California

## Courts

U.S. District Court-Southern District of Texas  
U.S. District Court-Eastern District of Texas  
U.S. District Court-Southern District of California  
U.S. District Court-Eastern District of Michigan