



Molly L. Wells

Partner

✉ mwells@fishmanhaygood.com

☎ 504.556.5505

📠 504.949.8117

## Practice Focus

Appellate Group

Class Actions/Mass Actions/MDLs

International Arbitration

Ponzi/Banking Schemes

Real Estate Litigation

---

## About

**Molly Wells** has experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants across all manner of commercial litigation.

Molly is known for her careful attention to detail in addressing complex problems before and after the initiation of legal proceedings. When legal proceedings cannot be avoided, Molly most frequently represents clients in litigation or arbitration on claims for breach of contract, unfair trade practices, common-law aiding and abetting, and violations of securities, antitrust, and mineral laws.

Most notably, she was counsel to investors defrauded in R. Allen Stanford's \$7 billion Ponzi scheme in their lawsuit against the five banks that the investors allege aided and abetted or knowingly participated in the scheme. [Settlements](#) totaling \$1.6 billion were reached with five bank defendants on the eve of trial.

Molly is also a member of the firm's international arbitration team. The firm handles a number of disputes arising under bilateral investment treaties (BITs), which sovereign nations enter to protect investors of their country who make investments in their partner country under the treaty. In such matters, the firm represents claimant construction companies in confidential arbitrations against respondent sovereign nations who expropriated or otherwise impaired the claimant's investment within respondent's borders in violation of the applicable BIT.

For example, Molly represents a Turkish company, Akgun Insaat Makina Sanayii ve Dis Ticaret Ltd. Sti (Akgun), in a case against the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in a construction dispute under the Turkey-Ethiopia BIT. Molly and the other members of the Akgun team tried the matter at the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands in May 2022, and the case is currently pending before the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

Molly is a member of [ArbitralWomen](#), an international non-governmental organization that brings together female international dispute resolution practitioners. She also is a member of the [New Orleans Bar Association](#) and the [Association for Women Attorneys – New Orleans](#).

Molly is recognized as a Benchmark Litigation "Future Star," and she is also a 2025 Super Lawyers Rising Star in General Litigation and Business Litigation. She was recognized among the *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*<sup>®</sup> in America for Antitrust Law, Appellate Practice, Commercial Litigation, and Litigation – Antitrust from 2021-2025.

Molly received her law degree *summa cum laude* from Tulane University Law School. While in law school, Molly served as managing editor of the *Tulane Law Review* and as a student attorney with the [Tulane Environmental Law Clinic](#). After law school, Molly clerked for the Honorable Carl J. Barbier of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

## Experience

Molly currently represents or recently represented:

- Individuals and the Official Stanford Investor's Committee against five banks, with particular concentration on claims against Trustmark National Bank and Independent Bank of Texas (formerly known as Bank of Houston), in a lawsuit alleging the banks' aiding and abetting of the \$7 billion Ponzi scheme perpetrated by R. Allen Stanford; settlements of \$100 million were reached with both Trustmark and Bank of Houston in early 2023, with total recoveries from all five bank defendants (The Toronto-Dominion Bank, Société Générale Private Banking (Suisse) S.A., HSBC Bank plc, Trustmark, and Bank of Houston) amounting to more than \$1.6 billion.
- The putative class of customers defrauded by FTX and who suffered losses totaling more than \$8 billion from the collapse of the FTX cryptocurrency exchange in the multidistrict litigation *In re FTX Cryptocurrency Exchange Collapse*.
- Commercial contractors in confidential international arbitrations arising out of large-scale infrastructure and industrial development projects.

- A contractor providing online services for universities in arbitration against a university who breached the parties' agreement.
- Louisiana landowners in a lawsuit against Motiva arising from multi-million dollar lease dispute involving underground storage caverns mined in a salt dome.
- New Orleans shopping center in lawsuits to enforce commercial leases.
- Equipment rental company against class allegations of breach of contract and unfair trade practices.

## Recognitions

- **Benchmark Litigation** "Future Star", *since 2025*
- **Benchmark Litigation:** 40 & Under List - South, *2022 and 2023*
- **Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America**, Antitrust Law, Appellate Practice, Commercial Litigation, and Litigation - Antitrust, *2021-2025*
- **Super Lawyers: Rising Star**, General Litigation and Business Litigation, *since 2018*

## Media

Publications

Presentations

- Author, "Balancing Policy Goals in the Cable Industry After the Expiration of the Exclusive Contract Prohibition," 88 Tul. L. Rev. 127, 2013.
- Moderator, "Who, What, and Where: Enforcement Involving Latin American Arbitration Awards," International Chamber of Commerce Young Arbitration and ADR Forum, Nov. 13, 2024.
- Panelist, "Pathways to Becoming a Class Action Practitioner," University of Miami School of Law 8th Annual Class Action & Complex Litigation Forum, Jan. 25, 2024.
- Speaker, "Surviving Depositions and Cross-Examinations," Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants 2022 Forensic, Litigation & Valuation Services Conference, Oct. 2022.

## Credentials

Education

Clerkships

Admissions

- J.D., *summa cum laude*, from Tulane University Law School, *2014*
  - Managing Editor of the Tulane Law Review
  - Order of the Coif
- B.A., *cum laude*, from University of Richmond, *2005*

- Clerk to the Honorable Carl J. Barbier of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, 2014-2015
- Louisiana

## Recent News

[See All News](#)

Dec 16, 2025

[Federal Judge Grants Firm's Motion to Permit Enforcement Against Libya's U.S. Assets in Ongoing Efforts to Fulfill \\$30M Arbitral Award](#)

## Notable Rankings

