Kate N. Dodoo

Of Counsel

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Overview

Kate Dodoo is a litigation, appellate, and transaction lawyer who joined McAfee & Taft in 2021 after devoting the first 15 years of her legal career to public service at the federal, state, and municipal levels. In addition to developing strong technical skills as a litigator, managing cases from inception and discovery to mediation and trial, she also has a unique understanding of the inner workings of the courts and the government. Her extremely broad base of knowledge and experience includes work in the areas of contract negotiation and review, business and commercial litigation, employment and labor law counseling and litigation, constitutional law, wrongful death actions, and immigration counseling and litigation.

In her current role, Kate represents clients in administrative proceedings and mediations and before state and federal trial and appellate courts in a broad range of civil litigation, including complex business disputes, insurance litigation, and tort litigation.

As a member of the firm's Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Group, she also assists clients in identifying and managing risk and advising them on privacy and information security, legal, and regulatory compliance, including the development and implementation of legally compliant privacy and security programs, the investigation of potential breaches, and best practices for responding to data breaches and cyberattacks.

Prior to joining the firm, the Oklahoma native served as an assistant chief counsel in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Custom Enforcement's Office of the Principal Legal Advisor in San Antonio, Texas, where she was primarily responsible for litigating a high volume of complex immigration removal proceedings, including those against alleged criminals, terrorists, and human rights abusers. In addition, Kate maintained a robust appellate practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals. Her prior career experience also includes serving as the assistant city attorney for the City of Enid, Oklahoma, and as an appellate attorney to the Honorable Tom Colbert of the Oklahoma Supreme Court for 12 years. While there,

Admissions

Oklahoma, 2005

Texas, 2019

Education

J.D., Oklahoma City University School of Law, 2005; Phi Delta Phi; National Order of the Barristers, William J. Holloway, Jr. American Inn of Court, National Women Law Students' Association, Black Law Students' Association

B.S., University of Central Oklahoma, 2002

Professional Organizations and Memberships

Oklahoma Bar Association

State Bar of Texas

American Bar Association

National Bar Association

American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)

Oklahoma Bar Foundation (Fellow)

Civic Involvement and Leadership

YWCA Enid (Former Board Member)

Law and Public Safety Career Academy at Douglass High School (Former Board Member)

Oklahoma Children's Court Improvement Program (Former Taskforce Member and Co-Chair of the Education Workgroup

she provided procedural and substantive legal advice, managed daily chamber operations, and drafted an extensive number of precedent-setting, published decisions adjudicating complex civil cases arising under the Oklahoma Supreme Court's appellate and original jurisdictions.

In addition to her law degree, Kate has completed advanced training from the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA), Appellate Judge Education Institute (AJEI), Institute of Special Education Advocacy (ISEA) at the William & Mary School of Law and Stetson University School of Law, School-Justice Partnerships Program from the Georgetown University School of Public Policy (CJJR), and the Police Legal Advisor Training Program (PLATP) at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC).

While maintaining an active professional and family life, Kate has also remained a committed community volunteer. Over the years, this has included devoting her time to enhancing education opportunities for at-risk and special needs youth through the Oklahoma Children's Court Improvement Program, coaching the Frederick Douglass Moot Court teams at the Oklahoma City University School of Law, mentoring law students participating in the Oklahoma Supreme Court's internship programs, and serving the boards of the Law and Public Safety Career Academy of Douglass High School, the YWCA, and Youth Opportunity Task Force. In 2017, she was nominated for the YWCA's Social Justice Activator Award and subsequently recognized as an "Oklahoma Shero" by the State of Oklahoma.