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TEXAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION



ROBERT D. STOKES

A long time Texas resident, Shareholder of Flahive, Ogden & Latson, Robert (Bobby) Stokes is a skilled litigator with more than 30 years' diversified experience in the field of workers' compensation law and is Board Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Civil Appellate Law and Workers' Compensation Law. He earned his BA at Abilene Christian University and holds a J.D. from Baylor University, where he was managing editor of the Baylor Law Review.

Mr. Stokes heads his firm's special client projects team, where he is currently involved with such diverse issues as Performance Based Oversight review (PBO), eBilling initiatives, TPA licensing issues, audit practices, and Health Care Network concerns. Moreover, he actively monitors agency rulemaking and legislative proposals on behalf of his clients.

Mr. Stokes is an advocate in workers' compensation cases at the administrative level, in suits during the judicial review process, and before all Texas Courts of Appeals and the Texas Supreme Court. His high-profile appeals include *Division of Workers' Compensation v. Lumbermen's Mutual Cas. Co.*, a case in which the appellate court disallowed a DWC effort to increase claimant impairment ratings through the use of agency "advisories", *In re: Crawford & Co.*, where the Texas Supreme Court abolished bad faith in Texas workers' compensation cases, *City of Laredo v. Garza*, the style case requiring rigorous expert analysis to prove the existence of an injury, and *Ins. Co. of the State of Pa., v. Muro*, a case in which the Supreme Court reversed an award of Lifetime Income Benefits.

Mr. Stokes is a past chair of the Texas Board of Legal Specialization as well as past chair of the Texas State Bar Committee on Jury Service. Mr. Stokes currently serves on the State Bar Committee on Pattern Jury Charges, General Negligence and Intentional Torts and Workers' Compensation, and is a member of the Travis County Bar and Life Fellow of the Texas bar Foundation.

