



# ABRAHAM, WATKINS, NICHOLS, SORRELS, AGOSTO & FRIEND

## **New Associate Joins Abraham Watkins**



Abraham Watkins is proud to announce that Steve Hollingsworth has joined our firm as an Associate. Mr. Hollingsworth is a proven and effective trial lawyer. He has tried as lead counsel more than 45 cases in courtrooms throughout Texas and in major venues, including Harris, Hidalgo, Bexar, Cameron, Dallas,

Comal, Val Verde, Maverick, Zavala, and Dimmit Counties. His legal career began as an Assistant District Attorney for Harris County, where he tried cases at the misdemeanor and felony level.

Prior to joining Abrahams Watkins, Mr. Hollingsworth worked for major insurance companies and insurance defense firms, giving him insight into the way insurance companies try to protect their profits by limiting payment

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for claims. He has represented major clients like Coca-Cola, AIG, Liberty Mutual, Allied Insurance Co., and Allstate in cases ranging from minor to catastrophic injuries and fatalities. [Read more.](#)

## Texas Super Lawyers Recognition Continues for Firm



Abraham Watkins is proud to announce the selection of firm attorneys Nick Nichols, Randy Sorrels, Benny Agosto, Jr., Mo Aziz, Jay Jackson, and Brant Stogner to Texas Super Lawyers for 2015. This list, which is comprised of less than five percent of practicing attorneys in Texas, is published annually in the *Texas Monthly* and *Super Lawyers* magazines.

This marks the thirteenth consecutive year for Firm Partners Nick Nichols and Randy Sorrels to be recognized on the Texas Super Lawyers list. Firm Partner Benny Agosto, Jr. has been listed since 2006, Firm Partner Mo Aziz since 2013, and firm attorney Jay Jackson since 2012. [Read more.](#)

## Responsible Third Parties: To Object or Not Object, That is the Question

Firm attorneys Benny Agosto, Jr., and Eric Gerard

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### **UPCOMING SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

**OCT. 29 -**

**JAY JACKSON**

"Crafting and Presenting the Jury Charge," 38th Annual Advanced Civil Trial Course, Houston

**NOV. 12 -**

**JAY JACKSON**

"Texas Supreme Court Update," Prosecuting and Defending Truck or Auto Collision Cases 2015, San Antonio

recently wrote a paper on dealing with untimely responsible third party designations in personal injury cases. Texas law allows tort defendants to name persons not actually part of the lawsuit as "responsible third parties" (RTP). If the jury then allocates fault to the RTP at trial, the plaintiff's total recovery is reduced, as the non-party RTP can't be made to pay its share of damages. Defendants are obliged to "timely disclose" potential RTPs so that the plaintiff can join them as additional defendants and ensure they are held accountable. Occasionally, however, a devious defendant may not disclose an RTP until after the statute of limitations runs, thus ensuring that the plaintiff is unable to join the third party as a new defendant. This paper addresses how a plaintiff's lawyer can fight such unsporting behavior and what is meant by the RTP statute's "timely disclosure" obligations. To read the paper, click [here](#).

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## **Firm Sponsors Texas Children's Hospital Neonatology Fundraising Effort for Third Year**

The ninth Battle Buddy 57, a fitness fundraising event benefiting the Olivia Grace Stevens Endowment Fund for Neonatology at Texas Children's Hospital, took place on October 17 at the Bayou City CrossFit in Houston. It was sponsored for the third year in a row by Abraham Watkins, the event's Title Sponsor, and over \$3,000 was raised.



Six years ago, Olivia Stevens was born with a rare chromosomal disorder, 13q deletion, that left her fighting for life from the moment she

was born. The foundation in her name was created to provide financial support for research and training in the care and treatment of premature and critically-ill infants at Texas

Children's Hospital. The proceeds of all Battle Buddy 57 events support the foundation, established by Olivia's parents. [Read more.](#)

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## **Abraham Watkins Pursues \$100 Million Volkswagen Lawsuit**

Firm partners Benny Agosto, Jr. and Mo Aziz were retained by Harris County to join a team of lawyers who filed a lawsuit against Volkswagen Group of America Inc. and Audi of America, LLC. Harris



County filed the lawsuit against the car manufacturer claiming that emissions from 6,000 diesel cars circulating on roadways in the region have caused harm to the population and environment of the region. This may be the first lawsuit filed by a government entity against the car company since management admitted to falsifying emissions numbers of certain cars released since 2009.

The Harris County Attorney's Office appointed three law firms, including Abraham Watkins, to handle this important case. Harris County is seeking \$100 million in damages, but that number could increase as more information about Volkswagen's fraud becomes available. [Read more.](#)

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## **Join Abraham Watkins' Efforts to Support Child Abuse Victims at Texas Children's Hospital**

During the month of November, Abraham Watkins will be raising money for the [Child Abuse Pediatrics \(CAP\)](#) program of the Texas Children's Hospital, and we invite you to join our efforts. Child abuse and neglect are social issues that continue to grow at an alarming rate in the United States, causing a new report of abuse every 10 seconds, and the deaths of four children daily. In response to this growing problem, the CAP program was

designated as a medical subspecialty in the United States by the American Board of Pediatrics in 2009.



**Texas Children's  
Hospital**<sup>®</sup>

The Texas Children's CAP program is one the largest of its type in the United States, and uses an integrated and multidisciplinary approach to provide patient care through evaluation, diagnosis, treatment, and post-care for infants, children, and teens by utilizing a wide range of nursing, technical, specialty, and support services. Last year, the CAP team cared for 1,500 children who were victims of neglect or abuse, approximately half of which accounted for the annual average of 750 to 850 children who receive care for sexual abuse. Those numbers continue to grow as the Hospital sees more children come into the Emergency Center who have been victims of human trafficking. If you are interested in supporting our firm's fundraising efforts for the Texas Children's CAP program, you can make an online donation by clicking [here](#).

Real Trial Lawyers. Real Results.

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