



*Chris*  
**VON DER GRUEN**

ASSOCIATE

Chris von der Gruen relies on a diverse background to create thoughtful and thorough solutions to meet clients' needs.

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Chris von der Gruen came to the practice of law following careers in both military intelligence and commercial art. He brings discipline, integrity, problem solving, and creative-thinking from past careers to his role as an attorney, focusing his practice on business litigation and transactions.

As a student at Baylor Law School, Mr. von der Gruen received the David and Zandra Swenson Endowed Intellectual Property Award, attended Baylor's inaugural Business Law Bootcamp seminar, and completed the Texas Mediator Certificate Course. He was named a member of the Order of the Barristers after participating in extracurricular competitions, including the 2014 IP Transactional LawMeet in San Diego, where his team won regional semi-finalist. Mr. von der Gruen interned twice for United States Magistrate Judge Jeffrey C. Manske in the Western District of Texas, Waco Division.

After graduating in May 2016 and becoming licensed in the state of Texas the following November, Mr. von der Gruen started his own solo-practice focused on business law and intellectual property. He was a volunteer lawyer with the Texas Accountants and Lawyers for the Arts, assisting local creative professionals with business planning and formation, 501(c)(3) recognition, and copyright ownership.

Before becoming a lawyer, Mr. von der Gruen served in the United States Army as a Counter-Intelligence Special Agent supporting special operations at home and abroad, including a deployment to Afghanistan in

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2004. After an honorable discharge in 2007, Mr. von der Gruen attended art school, obtaining a degree in film and animation. He put his creative skills to use as a video producer for a rapidly growing software company headquartered in Austin, creating public-facing technical and creative videos driving sales and marketing campaigns.

He and his wife Shannon are both Austin natives, and take pride in supporting their community as professionals and personally through local volunteering.