

Don Cruse

LAW OFFICE OF DON CRUSE
A Focused Appellate Firm in Austin, Texas
(512) 853-9100 | don@doncruse.com

Don served four years as an Assistant Solicitor General in the State of Texas' appellate group (OSG), which takes a lead role on the State's biggest appeals and oversees its entire appellate docket. Before that, he was a litigation associate on high-stakes cases about corporate governance, mergers, antitrust, securities law, and contracts. He started his career as a law clerk at the Texas Supreme Court.

He now publishes the *Supreme Court of Texas Blog* (<http://scotxblog.com>), which covers the Court's decisions, pending issues before the Court, and practice tips for the unique twists of Texas Supreme Court practice.

Don also developed DocketDB (<http://docketdb.com>), a computer program that follows activity across the Texas Supreme Court's docket. It tracks briefing requests, grants of review, amicus briefs, and which petitions and motions for rehearing are receiving the longest look from the Court.

Legal Background

Founder, Law Office of Don Cruse (2007 - present)

Assistant Solicitor General, Texas Office of Solicitor General (2003-2007)

Litigation Associate, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz (2000-2003)

Law Clerk, Justice Priscilla R. Owen, Supreme Court of Texas (1999-2000)

Selected Cases as Lead Appellate Counsel

Equal Access for El Paso v. Hawkins, 509 F.3d 697 (5th Cir. 2007)

Allstate v. Abbott, 495 F.3d 151 (5th Cir. 2007)

Texas A&M University v. Koseoglu, 233 S.W.3d 835 (Tex. 2007)

Reata Constr. Corp. v. City of Dallas, 197 S.W.3d 371 (Tex. 2006) (as amicus; on reh'g)

NCAA v. Yeo, 171 S.W.3d 363 (Tex. 2005)

HCA Healthcare Sys. v. Tex. Dep't of Ins., 303 S.W.3d 345 (Tex. App.—Austin 2009, no pet.)

Education

UT School of Law: *Texas Law Review*, Order of Barristers, Order of the Coif,
winner of both Susman Godfrey Moot Court and Gibbs & Bruns Moot Court

UT Austin: B.A. in Economics, B.S. in Mathematics

Presentations in 2010

"Appellate Briefs of the Future," *with* Blake Hawthorne, UT Conference on State and Federal Appeals (June 2010)

"Lessons from the Longest Serving Court in Texas History," *with* Justice Don R. Willett, Austin Bar Association Civil Appellate Section (March 2010)