

THE AM LAW LITIGATION DAILY

Litigator of the Week Runners-Up and Shout-Outs

By Ross Todd

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➤ Sticking with Winter Storm Uri for the moment, Susman Godfrey partner Beatrice Franklin argued on behalf of Macquarie Energy and a joint defense group of energy wholesalers and marketers at the Tenth Circuit in a case where Kansas residents alleged the defendants drove up energy costs during the storm. (Franklin handled arguments while seven months pregnant.) The court [held this week](#) that the Natural Gas Act preempted the plaintiffs' state-law claims, affirming a ruling from the district court below. The Susman team included William Merrill and associates Alexandra Foulkes Grafton and Megan E. Griffith. The defense line-up included litigators from **Latham & Watkins**, led by partner **Johanna Spellman** and counsel **Nathan Saper**, with partners **Nick Boyle**, **Melissa Sherry**, and **Rob Malione**, as well as Dentons US, Wallace Saunders, Baker Botts, Hinkle Law Firm, Sullivan & Cromwell, Berkowitz Oliver, Bracewell LLP, Stinson LLP, White & Case, Weil, Gotshal & Manges, Triplett Woolf Garretson, Sanders Warren & Russell, McDowell Hetherington, Sandberg Phoenix & Von Gontard, Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, Klenda Austerman, Troutman Pepper Locke, Hunton Andrews Kurth and Shook, Hardy & Bacon.