WALTER W. CHRISTY
Senior Counsel, New Orleans
wchristy@fisherphillips.com

New Orleans
t: 504.529.3831
f: 504.529.3850

Walter Christy is senior counsel in the firm’s New Orleans office.

He focuses on the representation of management in labor and employment matters, including the areas of employment discrimination, state and federal employment claims against employers, employee relations, contract negotiations, arbitration, OSHA, wage and hour cases, the development and implementation of drug and contraband control programs, government contractor obligations, as well as practice before the National Labor Relations Board. He has had extensive experience in defending companies in class action discrimination cases and was chief counsel in the case of Allison v. CITGO Petroleum Corp., 151 F.3d 402 (5th Cir. 1998) which affirmed the district court’s denial of class certification and is considered by many to be the seminal case on post-1991 Civil Rights Act class actions.

Walter’s labor and employment experience covers numerous industries including construction, the offshore oil patch, inland river transportation, banking, healthcare, retail sales, manufacturing, oil and chemical refining, retail foods, among others. Several of his clients are national in scope and include Fortune 500 companies. His experience includes the successful representation of employers in numerous judge and jury trials in federal and state courts in cases involving employment discrimination, wage and hour violations, denial of benefits and state law claims around the country.
He has provided ongoing advice and assistance to corporate management concerning a myriad of employment issues, such as advising the Board of Directors of a major bank regarding the handling of a potential sexual harassment claim involving the bank’s CEO and advising a major oil company on corporate reorganization and downsizing.

Walter also has experience in the area of maritime law and has continued that practice with Fisher Phillips. His experience includes the defense of suits under the Jones Act and general maritime law, and seamen’s retaliation claims, among others.

Prior to joining Fisher Phillips, he was a partner in the firm of Coats Rose where he practiced as a litigator in state and federal courts around the country, including several of the federal courts of appeals and the United States Supreme Court. Prior to the practice of law, Walter also served in the U.S. Army Reserve, as a member of the Judge Advocate General’s Corps.

Walter was inducted as a Fellow of The College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. An attorney with this distinction has proven to his or her peers, the bar, bench, and public that he or she possesses the highest level of character, integrity, professional experience and leadership.

Walter was listed in Chambers USA in 2018 for Louisiana Labor & Employment attorneys. Chambers made the following comment concerning Walter’s work:

“Walter Christy is particularly noted for defending employers in single-plaintiff and class action discrimination suits and is described as ‘a fantastic litigator.’ His experience covers wage and hour claims, OSHA and contract negotiations.”

He is married to Carolyn Elder and has three daughters. He is also an avid tennis player and history buff.

**Reported Cases**


Mendonca v. Tidewater Inc., 862 So.2d 505, 2003 WL 22999503 2003-1015 [La App. 4 Cir. 12/17/03], La.App. 4 Cir., December 17, 2003


Whiteman v. Worley., 688 So.2d 207, 1997 WI. 70853, 96-0305 [La.App. 4 Cir. 2/19/97], La.App. 4 Cir., February 19, 1997

ODECO Oil & Gas Co. v. Nunez., 532 So.2d 453 1988 WI 108674., La.App., 1 Cir., October 12, 1988

Honors & Awards

- Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America (2019, 2021)
- Listed as a Top Lawyer in New Orleans Magazine in 2020
- 2018 Best Lawyers Lawyer of the Year - New Orleans - Litigation - Labor and Employment
- Top Ranked USA Chambers 2016 and 2018
- Fellow, College of Labor and Employment Lawyers
- Honors: Moot Court Board [Tulane]

Professional Activities

- Louisiana Bar Foundation
■ New Orleans Bar Association
■ Federal Bar Association
■ Defense Research Institute
■ Instructor, Labor & Employment Law - Construction Executive Program, University of Texas (2006)
■ Instructor, Labor & Employment Law - Construction Executive Program, Texas A&M University (1993-1995)

News
Fisher Phillips Attorneys Receive Top Honors in Best Lawyers in America©
More Than A Quarter of the Firm’s Attorneys Recognized in 2021 Edition
8.20.20

Fisher Phillips Recognized Among The Top Labor and Employment Law Firms by Chambers USA
5.1.20

Best Lawyers in America® Honors 96 Fisher Phillips Attorneys in 2020 Edition
8.15.19

Chambers USA Recognizes 40 Fisher Phillips Attorneys in 2019 List
Firm Also Ranked Among the Best in the U.S. for Labor & Employment Law
4.25.19

Ninety-Five Fisher Phillips Attorneys Selected to The Best Lawyers in America 2019
8.15.18

Forty-Two Fisher Phillips Attorneys Ranked Among the Top in Chambers USA 2018
Firm Also Ranked Among the Best for Labor & Employment Law
5.3.18