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## Texas Governor's General Counsel Returns to Bracewell as Appellate Partner

Jeffrey Oldham, who was general counsel for Gov. Greg Abbott for more than three years, has “boomeranged” back to Bracewell, where he had practiced as an appellate partner for a decade.

BY BRENDA SAPINO JEFFREYS

### What You Need to Know

- Jeffrey Oldham, former general counsel for Gov. Greg Abbott, returned to Bracewell as an appellate partner in Houston.
- Oldham said he knew he would return to private practice after a stint in public service,
- He said he brings a new perspective after working as an in-house lawyer for the governor.

Jeffrey Oldham has returned to **Bracewell** as a partner in Houston, after more than three years as general counsel for Gov. Greg Abbott, becoming the 50th lawyer to “**boomerang**” to the firm over the last 10 years.

Bracewell marked Oldham's move and the significant 50-lawyer tally by presenting him with a boomerang at a partner's meeting this month.

Oldham rejoined Bracewell as a partner in the appellate practice Dec. 1. He originally joined Bracewell in 2008, and was an appeals partner at the firm for a decade.

After serving as the governor's lawyer since early 2018, Oldham said he decided during the summer that it was time to return to private practice.

“After three years of public service, the timing was perfect for my family and me to get back to the private sector,” Oldham said.

He said he brings a “fresh perspective” to his appellate practice, after serving essentially as in-house counsel for the governor.

“It will help me as I come back here now and work with clients,” he said.

While working out of Bracewell's Houston office, Oldham said he will continue to live in Austin, a city his family enjoys.

Oldham has argued appeals before the U.S. Supreme Court, the Texas Supreme Court, the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and several other federal appeals courts, and Texas state appeals courts.

In a press release in November announcing Oldham's intention to



Courtesy photo

**Jeffrey Oldham, partner with Bracewell in Houston, TX.**

depart this month, Abbott wrote that Oldham “faithfully served the people of Texas with integrity.”

Stephen Crain, the chair of Bracewell's litigation section, wrote in a press release that Oldham's return “strengthens our top-ranked appellate practice.”

Oldham is the fourth lateral partner to join Bracewell's litigation section since January. Others, according to the firm, are Seth DuCharme and Martin Gusy in New York, and Anne Termine in Washington, D.C.