

# BELL NUNNALLY DIVERSITY LAUDED BY NATIONAL DIVERSITY COUNCIL AND TEXAS DIVERSITY COUNCIL

August 31, 2017

### Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP partners Sonja J. McGill and Karen L. Hart, respectively, have been named to the National Diversity Council's "2017 Top 50 Multicultural Lawyers in Dallas" list and the Texas Diversity Council's "Dallas Top 50 Women Lawyers Award" list.

"We are proud of Sonja and Karen for making these prestigious lists," said James Skochdopole, managing partner of Bell Nunnally. "As a firm, we are committed to being a diverse and inclusive workplace."

The National Diversity Council's "2017 Top 50 Multicultural Lawyers in Dallas" is comprised of executives, influencers and achievers affecting the legal industry. McGill is part of a select group chosen based on the following criteria provided by the organization: 1) demonstrating leadership excellence in the legal field; 2) exemplifying a noteworthy commitment to fairness, equity and justice in client representation and professional collaborations; 3) receiving a high degree of peer recognition for leadership excellence and professional expertise; and 4) demonstrating leadership and a commitment to community well-being.

The Texas Diversity Council is a regional member of the National Diversity Council. The organization's "Dallas Top 50 Women Lawyers Award" recognizes female attorneys who "have made a difference through their achievements and exemplify the ability to excel in the legal arena."

McGill and Hart are set to be recognized during "Dallas Legal Diversity Week," taking place September 26-28.

<u>Hart</u> is a business attorney with over a decade of experience litigating commercial disputes. She counsels clients on real estate and landlord-tenant matters as well as various contract and business disputes, providing guidance on business legal matters including: lease, purchase and sale; brokerage and property management disputes; specific performance claims; commercial evictions; *lis pendens*; lien and bond claims; lien priority disputes; promissory note claims; commercial foreclosures; bankruptcy claims;

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professional ethics and liability matters; bills of review; confidentiality, non-competition and non-solicitation agreements and related disputes and injunctive proceedings; and business tort claims – including tortious interference with contracts and business relationships, civil theft, fraud and misappropriation of trade secret claims. She received her J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law (2001) and her B.A. from the University of Texas at El Paso (1997). Hart is a 2017 Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Fellow.

McGill is a member of the firm's Labor, Employment and Benefits and Litigation practices. A trial attorney with extensive experience in all phases of employment law and commercial litigation, as well as a veteran mediator and negotiator, McGill advises employers on and litigates disputes involving issues including recruiting, hiring, employee relations, discipline and terminations, internal investigations, leaves of absence, wage and hour compliance, labor relations, EEO compliance, compliance unique to government contractors, contingent worker issues and immigration compliance management. She also regularly conducts employer trainings on hot-button labor and employment issues and compliance concerns and advises on HR policy formulation. She is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin (J.D., 1998; MPA, 1998) and Princeton University (B.A., 1993). McGill is a 2016 Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Fellow.

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## **Related Practices**

Labor and Employment Litigation Real Estate Law

## Practice Area Contact

Karen L. Hart