Harriet Miers

Senior Counsel

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Harriet is a trailblazer in the legal industry, recognized for her leadership and a long-standing dedication to public service. She brings a strategic approach to clients' complex issues, whether they involve appeals, class actions, white collar defense, or public law and policy.

OVERVIEW

Harriet has extensive experience representing a diverse range of clients in the health care, securities, and governmental sectors in litigation and public policy. She returned to the firm in May 2007 after serving in the administration of President George W. Bush from 2001-2007 as staff secretary, deputy chief of staff for policy, and counsel.

In 1972, after clerking for U.S. District Court Judge Joe E. Estes, Harriet became the first woman attorney to be hired at the Dallas firm of Locke Purnell Boren Laney & Neely. In 1996 she became the first woman to lead the firm, then known as Locke Purnell Rain Harrell. In 1999, when Locke Purnell merged with Houston-based Liddell, Sapp, Zivley, Hill & LaBoon, Harriet became co-managing partner, serving until she left to join the Bush administration.

Harriet has shown a deep commitment to public service throughout her career. She has served in many professional and community volunteer positions, and is a strong advocate of pro bono work and the advancement of minorities in the profession. In 1985, Harriet was selected as the first woman president of the Dallas Bar Association. In 1989, she was elected to a two-year term as an at-large member of the Dallas City Council. She then was invited to run for president of the State Bar of Texas and was elected to serve in 1992 as its first woman president. From 1995 until 2000, appointed by Governor George W. Bush, Harriet served as the chair of the Texas Lottery Commission.

Over the years, Harriet also served in many leadership roles in the American Bar Association, including chair of the board of editors of the American Bar Journal and the Texas state delegate to the ABA House of Delegates.

Harriet was inducted into the prestigious Texas Legal Legends, the highest award bestowed by the State Bar of Texas, recognizing attorneys for their lasting impact and extraordinary contributions to the legal profession. She also received in 2022, the Lifetime Achievement Award from *The American Lawyer*.

Harriet serves as a chair of the Texas Access to Justice Commission. She previously had chaired the Commission's Legislative Committee. She serves as co-chair of the Legal Services Corporation Leaders Council,

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a group of high-profile and influential leaders from various industries across the U.S. formed to help raise public awareness of the need to increase resources to provide legal aid for the poor.

In 2005, Harriet received the Sandra Day O'Connor Award from the Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism. She received the Robert G. Storey Award for Distinguished Achievement from the SMU Dedman School of Law. Harriet also received Distinguished Alumni Awards from SMU and the SMU Dedman School of Law.

In 2005, President George W. Bush nominated Harriet to serve as an associate justice on the U.S. Supreme Court, whose nomination was later withdrawn. She received the Department of Justice Edmund J. Randolph Award in January of 2007 for her "dedicated service to justice, the president, and the United States of America." Harriet also received the Agency Seal Medal awarded by the Central Intelligence Agency, given to people outside the CIA who have made significant contributions to its work.

AWARDS

- *The American Lawyer*, Lifetime Achievement Award (2022)
- Texas Bar Foundation, Outstanding 50 Year Lawyer Award (2021)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Bet-the-Company Litigation (2015-2027), Commercial Litigation (2013-2027), Government Relations Practice (2015-2027)
- Legal Aid of Northwest Texas, Louise Raggio Women's Legal Advocate Award (2020)
- Dallas Legends of Service Award (2013)
- Dallas Bar Association and The Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism, Morris Harrell Professionalism Award (2012)
- YWCA Centennial Award (2008)
- Thanks-Giving Square, Spirit of Thanks-Giving Award (2006)
- *National Law Journal,* 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America (2000)
- *National Law Journal*, 50 Most Influential Women Lawyers in America (1998)
- *National Law Journal,* 100 Most Powerful Attorneys (1997)
- *Today's Dallas Woman*, Woman of the Year (1997)
- *Women's Enterprise Magazine*, Women of Excellence Award (1997)
- Dallas Women's Lawyers Association, Louise B. Raggio Award (1996)
- Anti-Defamation League, Jurisprudence Award (1996)
- Legal Services of North Texas, Merrill Hartman Award (1996)
- State Bar Women In The Law Section, Sarah T. Hughes Award
- American Jewish Committee, Human Relations Award (1992)
- Justinian Award for Community Service (1992)
- Girls Clubs, National Award for Leadership and Commitment (1987)
- Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, Outstanding Young Lawyer (1979)

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Appellate + Supreme Court
- Class Action
- Government + Regulatory
- Litigation + Trial
- White Collar Litigation + Investigations

ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Appellate + Supreme Court
- Class Action
- Government + Regulatory
- Litigation + Trial
- Lobbying + Public Affairs
- White Collar Litigation + Investigations

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Chair, Texas Access to Justice Commission
- Honorary Doctorate, Pepperdine University School of Law
- Member, American Bar Association, State Bar of Texas and Dallas Bar Association
- Executive board member, SMU School of Law
- Life Fellow, American Bar and Texas Bar Foundations
- Charter Fellow, Dallas Bar Foundation
- Trustee and current board of trustees chair, Center for American and International Law
- Board of directors, Judge Patrick E. Higginbotham American Inn of Court
- Co-chair, Legal Services Corporation's Leaders Council
- Board of directors, Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Chair, board of directors, Dallas Breakfast Group
- Board of directors, Baylor Health Care System Foundation
- Chairwoman, Texas Lottery Commission, 1995-2000
- At-large member, Dallas City Council, 1989-1991

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- President George W. Bush's administration
  - Counsel, 2005-2007
  - Assistant and deputy chief of staff for policy, 2003-2005
  - Assistant and staff secretary, 2001-2003

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law, J.D., 1970, Barristers; comments editor, *Southwestern Law Journal*; Moot Court Board; Kappa Beta Pi
- Southern Methodist University, B.S., 1967

CERTIFICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Honorary Doctorate, Pepperdine University School of Law
- Life Fellow, American Bar and Texas Bar Foundations

- Charter Fellow, Dallas Bar Foundation

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Texas
- District of Columbia

CLERKSHIPS

- Hon. Joe E. Estes, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, 1970-1972

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Speaker, “Living Legends Series,” Dallas Bar Association, October 7, 2021.