



Practice Areas:

Family Law

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Education:

J.D. Texas Tech University School of Law - 1985

M.S. Trinity University, Clinical Psychology - 1978

B.S. Southern Methodist University, Psychology - 1976

Admitted to Practice:

Licensed to Practice law in State of Texas - 1985

U.S. District Court Northern District of Texas - 1986

Licensed by the United States Supreme Court - 2016

Qualifications:

Collaborative Training - 2007

Sid Stahl & John Estes Mediation Training - 2007

Child Custody and Domestic Violence Institute Technical Assistance Collaborative Addressing Domestic Violence and Child Custody - 2005

National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence Enhancing Judicial Skills In Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange - 2004

Settlement Consultants, Inc. General Civil Law and Family Law Mediation Training - 1992

Board Certified Texas Family Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization - 1992

Texas Psychological Association Psychological Associate Certification - 1979

Susan Rankin – Former District Court Judge

Publications, Seminars, and Cases

- Co-Author and Speaker, *Psychological Testing in Custody Evaluations Involving Substance Abuse and Sexual Accusations*, Sex, Drugs & Surveillance Course, Houston, TX, January 9-10, 2014
- Co-Author and Speaker, *Understanding Possession Schedules: Principles and Strategies*, Advanced Family Law Seminar, San Antonio, TX, August 5-8, 2013
- Contributing Author, *Title 4 Protective Orders and Family Violence*, Lexis Nexis Texas Annotated Family Code, by Debra H. Lehrmann, 2011 - 2012 Editions
- Co-Author and Speaker, *Private Termination and Adoption*, 8th Annual Family Law on the Front Lines, UTCLE, Galveston, TX, June 19-20, 2008
- Contributing Author, *Title 4 Protective Orders and Family Violence*, Lexis Nexis Texas Annotated Family Code, by Debra H. Lehrmann, 2006 Edition
- Co-Author and Speaker, *Ramifications of Affirmative Findings of Family Violence*, Family Violence Conference, Texas Center for the Judiciary, Galveston, TX, March 2004
- Co-Author and Speaker, *Trying the Complicated Temporary Order, etc.*, Advanced Family Law Course, State Bar of Texas, August 2002
- Co-Author and Speaker, *Rebutting the JMC Presumption-What the Judge Must Hear*, 24th Advanced Family Law Course, State Bar of Texas 1998
- Author and Speaker, *Social and Psychological Studies*, Advanced Family Law Course for Legal Assistants, State Bar of Texas 1996
- Author and Speaker, *Part Two: Securing Alimony and Enforcement*, Family Law Practice After the New Legislation, University of Houston Law Foundation 1996
- Co-Author, *Attorney Guide to Family Court Services*, assisted in preparation with Linda Hahn 1995

Awards & Honors

DMagazine's Top Women Lawyers in North Texas 2010

Sample Speaking Engagements

Panelist, District Judge's Forum, Dallas Bar Assoc., Family Law Bench Bar, February 2017

Panelist, As Family Courts Judges See It: Top Mistakes Attorneys Make in Litigating Divorce, National Business Institute, Dallas, TX, October 21, 2016

Panelist, District Judge's Forum, Dallas Bar Assoc., Family Law Bench Bar, February 2016

Panelist, District Judge's Panel, Jeff Coen Family Law Nuts & Bolts, Dallas Bar Assoc, Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program and the Family Law Section, September 2015.

Co Author and Speaker, *Psychological Testing in Custody Evaluations Involving Substance Abuse and Sexual Accusations*, Sex, Drugs & Surveillance Course, Houston, TX, January 9 10, 2014

Co Author and Speaker, Understanding Possession Schedules: Principles and Strategies, Advanced Family Law Seminar, San Antonio, TX, August 5 8, 2013

Speaker, Alienation, Protection or Manipulation? Innovations/Breaking Boundaries in Custody Litigation, UTCLE, Austin, TX January 24 25, 2013

Speaker, Private Termination and Adoption, Advanced Family Law Seminar, San Antonio, TX, August 10 14, 2008

Co Author and Speaker, Private Termination and Adoption, 8th Annual Family Law on the Front Lines, UTCLE, Galveston, TX, June 19 20, 2008

Speaker, Understanding the Special Considerations of Navigating a Domestic Violence Case, Family Law Section of the Dallas Bar Association and Central Dallas Ministries, Dallas, TX, October 2006

Speaker, Family: Custody vs. Adoption, Navigating Family Courts, Legal Workshop for Grandparents, Dallas County KinCare Legal Symposium, Dallas, TX, October 2006

Speaker, The Empowerment of Protective Orders, Texas Institute of Continuing Education, Learning to Make the Fax Family Code Work for You, Dallas, TX, October 2006

Panelist, Dos and Don'ts In The Courtroom, Dallas Bar Association's 15th Annual Bench Bar Conference, Horseshoe Bay, September 2006

Contributing Author, Title 4 Protective Orders and Family Violence, Lexis Nexis Texas Annotated Family Code, by Debra H. Lehrmann, 2006 Edition

Panelist, The Fifth Annual ACR Judge's Panel, The Association for Conflict Resolution, Dallas, TX, September 2005

Speaker, Pro Bono & Family Law, Dallas Bar Association, Dallas, TX, June 2005

Panelist, A Practical Guide to the Court Appointed Representation of Children in Family Law Cases, Dallas Bar Association Family Law Section, Dallas, TX, January 2005

Speaker, Economic Contribution and Relocation, TAFLS Trial Institute, New Orleans, LA, January 2005

Speaker, Family Violence and Possession, Dallas Family Court Services Training, Dallas, TX, November 2004

Speaker, Ramifications of Affirmative Findings of Family Violence, North Texas Legal Services, Dallas, TX, August 2004

Speaker, Grandparent Access, August 2004

Co Author and Speaker, Ramifications of Affirmative Findings of Family Violence, Family Violence Conference, Texas Center for the Judiciary, Galveston, TX, March 2004

Panelist, High Conflict Families: Methods Founded in Therapeutic Jurisprudence, AFCC Conference, Dallas, TX, October 2003

Speaker, Predicates and Objections: Rapid fire Offers and Rulings, TAFLS Trial Institute Cancun, January 2003

Co Author and Speaker, Trying the Complicated Temporary Order, etc., Advanced Family Law Course, State Bar of Texas, August 2002

Panelist, District Judges Panel: 10 Bad Things That Good Lawyers Do, Family Law On the Front Lines, University of Texas School of Law, Galveston, TX, April 2002

Speaker, Tips and Examples for More Effective Presentation of Expert Testimony, Advanced Expert Witness Course, State Bar of Texas, Dallas, TX, February 2002

Panelist, Panel Discussion on Mental Health Experts, Panel Discussion on the Tracing Expert, Daubert Prove up of Psychological Testing & Diagnosis, Advanced Expert Witness Course, State Bar of Texas, February 2001

Speaker, Relocation of Children: Legal Issues and Mental Health Evidence, State Bar of Texas Telephone CLE, January 2000

Speaker, Discovery Rules, A Discussion & Analysis of the New Rules of Discovery, 25th

Advanced Family Law Course, State Bar of Texas, August 1999

Panelist, Living in Dangerous Times: Family Violence etc., Assoc. Judge/IV D Master's Seminar, State Bar of Texas, August 1999

Panelist, Impact of the New Rules of Discovery, etc., State Bar of Texas 1999

Co Author and Speaker, Rebutting the JMC Presumption What the Judge Must Hear, 24th Advanced Family Law Course, State Bar of Texas 1998

Speaker & Panelist, Discovery Update, 23rd Advanced Family Law Course, State Bar of Texas, August 1997

Speaker, Settlement Agreement Enforcement & Your Ethical Problems, 20th Annual Marriage Dissolution, State Bar of Texas 1997

Panelist and Lecturer, Relocation Issues and the Texas Family Code, Dallas Bar Assoc. Family Law Bench Bar 1997

Speaker, Discovery Update, 22nd Annual Advanced Family Law Course, State Bar of Texas, August 1996

Speaker, Expectation of Experts B Bench Perspective, Dallas County America Society of Appraisers 1996

Speaker, Putting Power in Your Pen: Effective Drafting Techniques B Family Law (A Practitioner's Perspective) (A view from the Bench), Annual Meeting of the Legal Assistants Division of the State Bar of Texas 1996

Panelist and Lecturer, Dallas Bar Assoc. Family Law Bench Bar 1996

Author and Speaker, Social and Psychological Studies, Advanced Family Law Course for Legal Assistants, State Bar of Texas 1996

Author and Speaker, Part Two: Securing Alimony and Enforcement, Family Law Practice After the New Legislation, University of Houston Law Foundation 1996

Speaker, Legislative Changes, Irving Bar Association Family Law Section 1995

Speaker, Objective Assessment Techniques and Judicial Decision Making in Custody Evaluations, Co speaker with Dr. Jeffrey C. Siegel, Texas Psychological Association Annual Convention 1994

Speaker, The Changing Role of the Psychologist in Child Custody Determinations, Co Speaker with Dr. Jeffrey C. Siegel and Cynthia Pladziewicz, J.D., Texas Psychological Association Annual Convention 1994

Speaker, Temporary Hearings, Dallas County Pro Bono Project 1994

Affiliations and Memberships

Texas Academy of Family Law Specialists

Texas Family Law Foundation

Dallas Bar Association Family Law Section former member Board of Directors

Texas Bar Association

Advisory Board FLP Supervision Center former member

Annette Stewart Inn of Court -member

Mac Taylor Inn of Court - former member

Professional/Civic Activities

Presiding Judge, 254th Judicial District Court, Dallas County, Texas - 2015 to 2017

Presiding Judge, 301st Judicial District Court, Dallas County, Texas - 1997 to 2006

Associate Judge, 301st Judicial District Court, Dallas County, Texas - 1994 to 1997

Vial, Hamilton, Koch & Knox, Associate - 1987 to 1991

Gardere & Wynne, Associate - 1985 to 1987