

# Brenda G. DeRouen, JD

24 Greenway Plaza St. 1800  
Houston, TX 77583  
(832) 328-0791

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## OVERVIEW

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Brenda DeRouen is a skilled family law attorney with a passion for providing families with quality legal representation. She is a rising star in the legal industry, having been named a Top 40 under 40 by the National Trial Lawyers Association and a 2023 Super Lawyer - Rising Star. Brenda is known for her aggressive advocacy and her ability to help clients understand their rights and the issues affecting their case.

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## EDUCATION

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### **Thurgood Marshall School of Law**, Texas Southern University, Houston, TX

*Juris Doctorate*

*Certificates:* Advanced Government Law Certificate

*Activities:* Texas Legislative Fellow

Honor Court Justice

Moot Court

### **Queen Mary School of Law**, University of London, London, United Kingdom

*International Trade & Alternative Dispute Resolution: Certificate Program in International Arbitration Law and Practice*

### **Prairie View A&M University**, Prairie View, TX

*Bachelors of Science Criminal Justice with a Specialization in Juvenile Studies*

*Honors:* Alpha Phi Sigma Honor Society

Deans List

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## ADMISSIONS & ASSOCIATIONS:

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State Bar of Texas

Houston Association of Women Attorneys (President)

American Bar Association

Houston Bar Association

Brazoria County Bar Association

Houston Family Lawyers Group

State Bar of Texas - Family Law Section

Alpha Kappa Alpha Inc.

Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

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## **HONORS/ACCREDITATIONS:**

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Top 40 Under 40 - National Trial Lawyers Association  
2021 Top 40 Under 40 - National Black Lawyers 2020  
Super Lawyers Rising Star – 2021-2025  
Houstonia Magazine - Top Lawyer 2020, 2021  
2021 Women to Watch

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## **PUBLICATIONS:**

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How TalkingParents Helps Co-Parents and Attorneys  
The Future of Law: How Technology is Changing the Legal Industry  
How To Be An Ally  
Things to Consider Before You Say I Do  
Co-Parenting in 2021  
How Allegations of Domestic Violence Can Affect Your Family Law Case  
How to Start or Build Up Your Family Law Practice

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## **EXPERIENCE**

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### **DeRouen Law Firm, PLLC**

*Family Law Managing Attorney, July 2018 - Present*

- Proven track record of success in trial advocacy, with extensive experience litigating family law cases.
- Demonstrated leadership and management skills, with a track record of success in building and leading effective legal teams.
- Expertise in a wide range of practice areas, including civil litigation, criminal defense, family law, and business law.
- Strong negotiation and mediation skills, with a track record of success in resolving complex disputes through alternative dispute resolution methods.
- Skilled in legal research and writing, with the ability to draft compelling legal briefs and pleadings that effectively communicate clients' positions and arguments.
- Knowledgeable in all aspects of trial preparation, including case analysis, witness preparation, and evidence gathering and presentation.
- Ability to manage multiple cases simultaneously, while maintaining a high level of attention to detail and providing personalized attention to each client.
- Commitment to providing exceptional client service, with a focus on building long-term relationships based on trust and respect.
- Extensive experience working with expert witnesses, including medical professionals, forensic specialists, and financial experts.
- Strong courtroom presence and excellent oral communication skills, with the ability to effectively argue cases before judges and juries

### **GEICO**

*Claims Adjuster, October 2016 –April 2017*

- Investigated complex insurance claims for liability related to personal, casualty, and property loss damages.
- Reviewed and explained contractual terms of insurance policies to policyholders.

- Researched case law as well as state and federal statutes using Lexis Nexis.
- Negotiate settlement of claims.

**Reed Law Firm, Houston, TX**

*Law Clerk, May 2016- October 2017*

- Drafted and reviewed business contracts.
- Performed trademark searches, filed trademark applications, and drafted legal memorandums for lead attorneys.
- Gained practical litigation experience by drafting subpoenas, preparing pleadings, and attending depositions.

**Mostyn Law Firm, Houston, TX**

*Mass Tort Paralegal, November 2015 – May 2016*

- Conducted legal research using WestLaw and drafted motions, memorandum, and settlement documents
- Worked closely with attorneys in all aspects of product liability, premise liability, and insurance defense
- Monitored case statuses, responded to client calls, scheduled court cases, hearings, and attorney/client meetings using Aderant Total Office Legal Software.

**Texas Legislature, Honorable Senator John Whitmire, Austin, TX**

*Criminal Justice Policy Analyst/Senate Community Liaison, January 2013-February 2015*

- Was responsible for developing and executing justice reform campaigns
- Drafted legislation related to criminal and juvenile justice, evaluated policy, and monitored state agencies.
- Worked with constituents on individual and community issues.
- Served on select committees and boards dealing with human trafficking, wrongful convictions, and juvenile records.

**Texas Association of Counties, Austin, TX**

*Legislative Associate, Spring 2013*

- Worked to promote local interest in state and federal government.
- Provided county officials with relevant information on legislation affecting their counties. Tracked the development of legislative bills and provided regular updates by creating content for the TAC website and e-newsletter.
- Met regularly to advice legislators of important issues affecting county government. Developed organizations social media presence.

**D. Miller & Associates, PLLC, Houston, TX**

*Personal Injury Paralegal, August 2013- May 2014*

- Worked closely with counsel on cases involving product liability, insurance defense, and premise liability.
- Drafted memorandum, discovery, and motions.
- Performed research and prepared cases for trial, arbitration, and/or mediation.
- Interviewed clients and handled all case leads and case developments. Helped implement and train case managers on case management software.

**Texas Attorney General, *Child Support Division*, Houston, TX**

*Law Clerk*, Summer 2012

- Assisted lead attorney in establishing and enforcing compliance with child support and medical support orders.
- Performed research, drafted documents such as complaints and answers, interviewed clients and attend depositions, hearings, and trials.

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**SKILLS**

HTML, Microsoft Word, Excel, & PowerPoint, Westlaw, MyCase, LawPay, JotForms, Social Media, Westlaw Next, LexisNexis, NEEDLES, Arbitration, Government Law, Research, Government Regulations, ProDocs

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**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/AWARDS**

- Houston's Top 40 Under 40 - 2015
- OJ Thomas Community Leader Award 2015/2016
- Crossroads – Juvenile Detention Mentor
- Founder of Project 4-Way Scholarship (Focuses on Helping At-Risk Youth)
- Founder of Non-Profit Women of Law

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**LICENSE (S)**

- Texas All-Lines Adjuster License
- State Bar of Texas
- Mediation - Alternative Dispute Resolution (*Pending*)