

Brenda G. DeRouen, JD

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

OVERVIEW

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.

EDUCATION

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

ADMISSIONS & ASSOCIATIONS:

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.

HONORS/ACCREDITATIONS:

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

PUBLICATIONS:

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

EXPERIENCE

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 advise 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.

SKILLS

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

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

LICENSE (S)

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