

PHYLIS J. SPEEDLIN

Dykema Cox Smith
112 East Pecan, Suite 1800
San Antonio, TX 78205
Phone (210) 554-5594
pspeedlin@dykema.com

OVERVIEW Phylis J. Speedlin counsels clients in two primary areas: alternative dispute resolution - including arbitration, mediation and private judging - and appellate strategy. She delivers exceptional value by virtue of her experience as a judge, appellate advocate, and trial lawyer. An attorney for more than 32 years, Justice Speedlin served as a jurist for 13 years, ten years as a justice on the Texas Fourth Court of Appeals and three years as a Bexar County trial judge. During her tenure on the Fourth Court, Justice Speedlin authored more than 1,300 opinions covering a wide variety of issues, including personal injury, property rights, insurance law, medical malpractice, family law, employment law, probate, oil and gas, construction law and criminal law.

Originally raised in Ohio, Justice Speedlin moved to San Antonio in 1970 during her service with the United States Army Nurse Corp. She completed her undergraduate education in nursing at Incarnate Word College and obtained a masters degree in health care administration from Trinity University in San Antonio. She received her law degree with distinction from St. Mary's University School of Law.

Before becoming a jurist, Justice Speedlin practiced trial and appellate law for 17 years with the San Antonio law firm of Clemens & Spencer. As an attorney in San Antonio, she represented clients in numerous industries, with a significant focus on the healthcare industry including doctors, nurses and hospital administrators on medical malpractice and medical product litigations. She is board certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in personal injury law.

EDUCATION

St. Mary's University School of Law, San Antonio, Texas J.D. with distinction,
1983

Member of the John M. Harlan Society
Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas
M.S. Health Care Administration, 1977
Honor Graduate

Incarnate Word College, San Antonio, Texas, B.S. Nursing, 1975
Pittsburgh Presbyterian University
Hospital School of Nursing, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Diploma - Registered Nurse, 1970
Honor Graduate
President of Student Government

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Dykema Cox Smith**
January 2014 - present
Appellate law, Mediator, Arbitrator and Private Judge
San Antonio, Texas

Counsels clients in appellate strategy as well as mediates and arbitrates complex, multi-party litigation including personal injury, tort, product, health care, business, construction, employment, oil and gas lease and royalty disputes, probate, commercial, and family law. Qualified under the Civil Practice and Remedies Code to try lawsuits as a Private Judge upon agreement of the parties and referral by the trial court. Serves on the State Bar Pattern Jury Charge Oversight Committee developing jury issues used by Texas civil trial judges.

- **Plunkett & Griesenbeck, Inc.**
January 2013 - January 2014
Mediator, Arbitrator, and Private Judge
San Antonio, Texas

Mediated and arbitrated complex, multi-party disputes including personal injury, tort, product, health care, business, construction, employment, oil and gas lease and royalty disputes, probate, commercial and family law.

- **Justice Fourth Court of Appeals**
April 2003 - December 2012

Heard and decided over 3,900 civil and criminal cases and personally authored over 1,300 opinions covering a wide variety of issues, including personal injury, property rights, insurance law, medical malpractice, legal malpractice, deceptive practice, family law, employment law, probate, oil and gas, construction law and criminal law.

- **408th Judicial District Court Judge**
Bexar County, Texas January 2000 - April 2003

As a State District Court Judge, presided over and rendered decisions in all types of general civil litigation to include personal injury, commercial litigation, deceptive trade practices, medical malpractice, medical products litigation, legal malpractice, family law, construction law, employment law, and class actions. Has extensive experience in all aspects of civil trial practice including pre-trial discovery disputes, summary judgments, non-jury and jury issues. Designated by the Presiding Judge of the Fourth Administrative Judicial District as the sole judge to preside over all pretrial matters related to the Firestone Tire mass tort litigation filed and pending in the 4th Judicial Region.

- **Clemens and Spencer**
1983 - 1999
Attorney/Shareholder

Before becoming a jurist, practiced as a shareholder in one of San Antonio's oldest law firms with extensive experience in general civil litigation in both state and federal courts primarily representing defendants. Advised and assisted health care professionals including doctors, nurses, and hospital administrators on medical malpractice and medical product litigation. Served as lead trial attorney for complex personal injury, medical malpractice, and medical product cases taking cases to jury verdict. Argued before the Texas Supreme Court and the Intermediate Appellate Courts of the State. Defended Wyeth Pharmaceuticals (previously American Home Products) in the Phen-Fen mass tort litigation and served as a member of the Texas trial team. Provided corporate and health care legal advice and support to area hospitals, both large and small, in all aspects of compliance with state and federal health care laws. Dealt with physician employment agreements, physician practice agreements, non-competition and confidentiality agreements, partnership and practice group dissolutions, health care payment and billing disputes, medical staff bylaws, and other matters pertaining to the provision of health care. Argued before Texas regulatory agencies defending doctors, hospitals, nurses, and dentists on standard of care issues and professional licensing challenges.

LICENSED

State Bar of Texas, 1983
United States Supreme Court, 1988
United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, 1983
United States District Court for Southern District of Texas, 1985

BOARD CERTIFICATION

Personal Injury Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization, 1991-present
(recertified 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, State Bar of Texas
Texas Bar Association, Pattern Jury Charges Oversight Committee, Co-Chair
2005-present; Volume 3, 1993-1995
National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, Texas Chapter, 2015
Life Fellow Texas Bar Foundation
Member, Texas Bar Association ADR Section, 2012-present
Association of Attorney-Mediators, 2012-present
Member, San Antonio Bar Association; President 2010-2011; Officer or Director
2004-2009.
Master, William S. Sessions American Inn of Court 2012-present; Member,
1987-2001
Chair, Community Justice Pro Bono Committee, 2009-2013
Founder and Co-Chair, San Antonio Community Justice Program, 2002-2008
Vice Chair, Program Committee, 2000-2006
Vice Chair, San Antonio District Courts Committee, 1997-1999; Member 2002
Member, Continuing Legal Education Committee, 2000-2001
Member, San Antonio Medical-Legal Liaison Committee, 1988-1990
Chair Advisory Committee San Antonio Bar Foundation, 2011-2012
Member, American Board of Trial Advocates – San Antonio Chapter, 1995-
present
Member, San Antonio Women's Bar Association, 2000-present
Member Pro Bono College of the State Bar of Texas, 2003-present
Member, ADR Section San Antonio Bar Association, 1997-1999; Treasurer,
1998-1999

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ORGANIZATIONS

Board Member, St. Mary's Law Alumni, 2014-present
Legal Advisory Committee Catholic Charities, 2014-present
Board Member, Central Catholic High School, 2005-2011, 2012-2014
Member, Rotary Club of San Antonio, 2000-2002, 2007-2013
Member, Assistance League of San Antonio Advisory Council, 2007-2010
Member, Bexar County Republican Women's Club, 2000-2013
Member, Alamo City Republican Women's Club, 2000-2013
Board Member, Bexar County Alternative Dispute Resolution Center, 2001-2005
Bexar County Juvenile Board of Directors, 2000-2003
Member, Business and Professional Women's Club Inc. of San Antonio, 2000-
2006
Member, Altrusa International Inc. of San Antonio, 2000-2001
Board Member, San Antonio Young Life, 1992-1995, 2000-2001

Founder and Director, San Antonio Adoption Awareness Center, 1979-1980
Member, University United Methodist Church

FORMER GOVERNMENT SERVICE

United States Army Nurse Corp., 1970-1973
Audie L. Murphy VA Hospital, San Antonio, Texas
Assistant Hospital Administrator, 1977-1980

HONORS

Inducted to the Texas Chapter of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, 2015
2014 St. Mary's University School of Law St. Thomas More Award
2013 San Antonio Bar Association Lifetime Achievement Award
2012 American Bar Association Harrison Tweed Outstanding Pro Bono Award
2012 State Bar of Texas Judge Merrill Hartman Pro Bono Judge Award
2011 President's Award San Antonio Bar Association in recognition of a decade of dedication and innovation in support of a strong pro bono culture within Bexar County
2008 State Bar of Texas Resolution for Achievement
2007 San Antonio Bar Foundation Pioneer Peacemaker Award
2005 President's Award San Antonio Bar Association
2005 Community Leadership Award San Antonio Women's Chamber of Commerce
2003 President's Award San Antonio Bar Association
2004 Partners in Justice Award Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, Inc.
2004 Star of Achievement Award State Bar of Texas
2004 Pro Bono Award State Bar of Texas
2004 Scales of Justice Award from the NALS Foundation

DISPUTE RESOLUTION TRAINING

The National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals 2015 Advanced Mediation Training
Advanced Mediator Training-The Magic of Mediation Association of Attorney Mediators, 2014
Managing a Successful Arbitration - American Arbitration Association, 2014
Advanced Mediator Training-New Tools for Your Mediation Toolbox Association of Attorney Mediator, 2013
AAA Healthcare Payor Provider Judicial Orientation, 2013
Advanced Attorney-Mediator Training, Association of Attorney-Mediators, 2013
Arbitration Fundamentals & Best Practices for New AAA Arbitrators, 2013
Successful Mediation in a Nutshell: How to Close the Deal, State Bar of Texas, 2013

Recognizing Cognitive Barriers to Creative Solutions and Real tools to Deal with them, State Bar of Texas, 2013
Deal or No Deal: An Empirical Look at the Negotiation Dance, State Bar of Texas, 2013
Alternative Dispute Resolution: Getting to and Mediating in the Red Zone, State Bar of Texas, 2012
Issues of Regulation in the Practice of Mediation, ADR Section San Antonio Bar Association, 1998
Basic Mediator Training for Attorneys, Attorney-Mediators Institute (AMI), 1994

BOOKS OR PUBLICATIONS

Dear Birthmother, Kathleen Silber and Phylis J. Speedlin (A book on open adoption), Corona Publishers, first edition 1982; second edition 1991; third edition 1997

Casenote, "Telecommunication-Right of Access," 13 St. Mary's Law Journal 692, 1982

PUBLICATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

2015—Course Director State Bar of Texas Advanced Evidence and Discovery.

2014—"Private Judging: An Option for Resolving Legal Disputes" San Antonio Lawyer.

2014 - Speaker State Bar Advanced Evidence and Discover—Sufficiency of the Evidence

2013 - Speaker Texas Advanced Paralegal Seminar - Sponsored by the Paralegal Division of the State Bar of Texas

2013 - Speaker 5th Annual Damages in Civil Litigation- Sponsored by Texas Bar CLE

2012 - Course moderator San Antonio Advanced Evidence and Discovery Institute

2003 - Speaker - 27th Annual Page Keeton Product Liability & Personal Injury Law Conference- Sponsored by the University of Texas School of law

2001 - Course Moderator--Medical Malpractice Conference - Sponsored by Texas Tech University School of Law and St. Mary s University School of Law

1999 - Speaker - 11th Annual Texas Nurse Practitioners Conference, Medical Malpractice Suits Against the Advanced Practice Nurse and Advanced Nurse Practitioner - Contractual Relationships

1998 - Speaker - UTHSC School of Nursing, Legal Aspects of Nursing Practice

1997 - Author - Statute of Limitation in Health Care Litigation, TADC Fall Meeting, September, 1997

1996 - Author and Speaker - Medical Malpractice Conference - Sponsored by Texas Tech University School of Law and St. Mary's University School of Law - Statute of Limitations

1995 - Speaker - National Perinatal Nurses Association - Legal Issues Involving the Neonate

1994 - Speaker - University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio - Contemporary Influences Class

1994 - Author and Speaker - Texas Bar Association - Advanced Personal Injury Course - Civil Procedure Update

1994 - Speaker - University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio - Fourth Annual Perinatal Connection - Nurse's Role in Malpractice

1992 - Speaker - Medical Malpractice Conference Sponsored by University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio - Perinatal Conference - Anatomy of a Lawsuit

1991 - Author and Speaker - Texas Bar Association Advanced Personal Injury Course - Government Liability

1991 - Speaker - South Central Texas Society of Gastrointestinal Nurses and Associates - Mock Trial/Tips on Giving a Deposition

1991 - Speaker - Texas Nurses Association - District Eight, Inc. - Mock Trial

1990 - Author and Speaker - Medical Malpractice Conference Sponsored by Texas Tech University School of Law and St. Mary's University School of Law - Liability for Patient Dumping

1989 - Author and Speaker - Risk Management Course - Houston, Texas - Investigative Privilege