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# JUDGE MICHELLE M. SLAUGHTER

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## **PROFILE**

Judge Michelle M. Slaughter currently serves on the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. She was elected to this position in November 2018 and received more than 4.7 million votes—the largest number of votes of any contested Republican candidate in the United States for the November 2018 general election. As a member of the Court, from January 1, 2019 through the present, Judge Slaughter has authored more than 80 published opinions. Before being elected to the Court of Criminal Appeals, Judge Slaughter served six years as judge of the 405th District Court where she presided over thousands of civil and felony criminal cases.

Judge Slaughter is happily married to her best friend and college sweetheart, Ed Walsh, a NASA engineer. Together they have two wonderful daughters, Hazel (16) and Laila (13). They live in League City, Texas with their two German Shepherd Dogs (Pixie and Luna) and a fat, fluffy, black and white rescue cat, Sal.

## **JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE**

JUDGE, TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS, AUSTIN, TX – JAN. 2019-PRESENT

Judge Slaughter is one of nine judges serving on the court of last resort for criminal cases. During her time on the Court, she has authored more than 80 published opinions and has participated in addressing more than twenty thousand criminal law matters. Judge Slaughter serves as the Court's liaison for the Appellate Section of the State Bar of Texas and has given a number of presentations across the state on various topics related to the Court.

JUDGE, 405TH DISTRICT COURT, GALVESTON COUNTY, TX –

JAN. 2013-DEC. 2018

Serving on this general jurisdiction bench, Judge Slaughter presided over a wide variety of civil and felony criminal cases. She reviewed and signed hundreds of search warrants and volunteered for on-call rotations for remote blood search warrants for driving while intoxicated cases. Before Judge Slaughter was elected to this position, the 405th District Court was the least efficient and had the highest backlog of any district court in Galveston County. Through hard work, the implementation of various policies and procedures, holding hearings and ruling promptly, and by presiding over more jury trials than any other district court during that time period, Judge Slaughter transformed the court into the most efficient and most effective district court in the county with the lowest backlog of cases.

## **LAW PRACTICE EXPERIENCE**

FOUNDER/MANAGING MEMBER/ATTORNEY/MEDIATOR,

THE SLAUGHTER LAW FIRM, PLLC – 2010-2013

In 2010, Ms. Slaughter founded The Slaughter Law Firm, PLLC as a solo civil litigation practice. Through hard work, she quickly grew the practice into a busy and highly successful law firm in the Clear Lake

area of Houston. The firm represented businesses and individuals in all types of civil litigation and appellate law. Ms. Slaughter also served as a mediator in civil (non-family) cases.

#### ATTORNEY, LOCKE LORD, LLP – 2005-2010

Ms. Slaughter served as an attorney for the Houston office of this large international law firm representing businesses of all sizes, including Fortune 500 companies, in labor/employment matters, bankruptcy, business litigation, and complex commercial litigation. Her work here earned her the title of “Rising Star” in the *Super Lawyers* Edition of *Texas Monthly* magazine.

#### ATTORNEY, HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP – 2004-2005

Ms. Slaughter served as an attorney for the Houston office of this large international law firm representing businesses of all sizes, including Fortune 500 companies, in labor/employment matters.

### **OTHER LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

- Adjunct Professor, Baylor Law School - assist in teaching the Voir Dire Boot Camp and the quarterly Criminal Law Boot Camp (2023 - Present)
- Intern, Justice Tim Taft, First Court of Appeals, Houston Texas - conducted research and wrote legal opinions/memos on family, civil, and criminal appeals.
- Intern, Judge David Hittner, United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas - conducted research and wrote legal opinions/memos on federal civil and criminal cases.
- Intern, Judge Sim Lake, United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas - conducted research and wrote legal opinions/memos on writs of *habeas corpus* pending before the court.
- Summer Associate, Haynes and Boone, LLP (Houston)
- Summer Associate, Ware Snow Fogel & Jackson, LLP (Houston)
- Law Clerk, Nelkin & Nelkin, P.C. (Houston)

### **BAR ADMISSIONS**

- Texas (State Courts)
- United States District Court for the Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Districts of Texas
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

### **EDUCATION**

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LAW CENTER – J.D., *CUM LAUDE* (TOP 15%)

A.A. WHITE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER, MEDIATION CERTIFICATION

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON – B.A., *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*