

Amy C. Allen

Partner

Clients throughout the Gulf Coast area rely on Amy Allen to resolve complex, emotionally-charged family disputes, particularly when difficult property issues are involved or they need a compassionate advocate to protect the children caught in the middle. She handles the entire range of issues and disputes that clients may face, including divorce, child custody, modifications, enforcement actions, marital property valuation and characterization, premarital agreements, adoptions and other child-related issues. Amy is Board Certified in Family Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Amy has substantial experience in handling the most challenging property characterization, valuation and division issues. She has represented numerous high-net-worth individuals, professional athletes and their spouses, both in divorce proceedings and premarital agreement negotiations involving large estates, complex assets and a wide range of valuable business interests.

Before joining the firm, Amy worked with various public and private organizations – in conjunction with the Harris County Family Court judges, court personnel and volunteers – assisting families and children involved in difficult divorces and related proceedings. She learned first-hand how children are impacted by chaotic family disputes and the importance of resolving the core conflict between parents to ensure the long-term welfare of the children.

The outcome of a family dispute has long-lasting consequences, so Amy insists that clients have a strong voice and are fully invested throughout the process. Before they get started, Amy takes extra time to build trust, learn about the problems at the heart of the dispute and help clients set realistic, practical goals. This approach allows Amy to explore multiple alternatives, give clients options and keep them focused on each step necessary to achieve



Amy C. Allen

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Practices

Family Law

Education

J.D., University of Houston Law
Center (2006)

B.S., The University of Texas at
Austin (1994)

Bar Admissions

Texas

the ideal result.

Representative Experience

- Handled more than 50 premarital agreements, many with complex assets and large estates.
- Represented several professional athletes or spouses of professional athletes in divorce. Related issues included contracts with multiple teams, bonuses and future earnings.
- Served as Amicus attorney for four children involved in the Eldorado Compound sexual abuse case.
- Served as Amicus attorney, guardian ad litem, and attorney ad litem for children for more than 100 other children.
- Prosecuted protective orders both at the District Attorney's office and in private practice.
- Prior to law school, supervised more than 1,000 hours of visitation interactions between children and a parent when the court says they can be alone with that parent.

Press Releases

- "Gray Reed Family Law Partner Receives Houston Bar Association President's Award ," (May 26, 2022)
- "Twenty-Nine Gray Reed Attorneys Named 2018 Top Lawyers in Houston," (December 3, 2018)
- "Gray Reed Elects Five New Shareholders," (September 10, 2015)
- "Gray Reed Rides 183 Miles to Benefit National MS Society," (April 30, 2013)
- "Six Gray Reed Attorneys Become Board Certified,"

(January 23, 2013)

- “Amy Allen Named Associate in the Houston Office,” (July 24, 2008)

Speeches and Presentations

- “How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Have Remote Hearings,” Houston Bar Association – Family Law Section (April 8, 2020)
- “Child Support – There’s Never Enough,” Annual HVL Family Law Seminar (October 18, 2019)
- “Impact of Social Media on the Law,” University of Houston Law Center Legal Clinic (2014)
- “Employment/Engagement Contracts,” Advanced Family Law Drafting Course (Dec. 2013)
- “Child Support ,” Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program Family Law Conference (2013)
- “Geographical Restrictions,” South Texas College of Law Family Law Conference (March 2013)
- “Supervised Visitation Program, Child Protective Services, & Special Appointments,” South Texas College of Law Family Law Conference (March 2012)
- “Child Support: It’s Only Income if You Can Find It,” Advanced Family Law Course, State Bar of Texas (2011)
- “Enforcing Supervised Visitation Orders,” Houston Bar Association Family Law Section (March 2010)
- “Nuts and Bolts of Appointments, Protective Orders, and Working with CPS,” STCL Annual Family Law Conference (2010)

Honors

- Recognized by The Best Lawyers in America as the “Lawyer of the Year” in Houston for Family Law Mediation (2023)
- Selected by her peers for inclusion in Woodward/White, Inc.’s *The Best Lawyers in America* in the fields of Family Law (2019 – 2023), Family Law Arbitration (2023) and Family Law Mediation (2023)
- Named a “Super Lawyer” (2014 – 2022) and a “Rising Star” (2010 – 2014) by Texas Super Lawyers (a Thomson Reuters business) as published in *Texas Monthly*
- Named a *Houstonia Magazine* Top Lawyer in Houston (2017 – 2022)
- Named an *H-Texas* Top Lawyer in Houston (2016)

Organizational Involvement

Professional Involvement, Memberships & Affiliations

- American Bar Association
- State Bar of Texas, Family Law Section Member
- Texas Bar Foundation, Fellow
- Houston Bar Association, Family Law Section
 - Co-Chair, Family/Probate Law Bench Bar (October 2021)
 - President (June 2020 – May 2021)
 - President Elect (June 2019 – May 2020)
- Gulf Coast Family Law Specialists

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- President (June 2020 – May 2021)
 - Present Elect (June 2019 – May 2020)
 - Burta Rhoads Rayborn Inns of Court
 - Board of Directors
 - President (2017 – 2018)
 - Secretary (2015 – 2016)
 - Texas Family Law Foundation, Lifetime Member
 - Texas Academy of Family Law Specialists
 - Co-Chair, Texas Academy of Family Law Specialist Trial Institute (February 2021)
 - Board of Directors (2016 – 2019)
 - Historian (2013 – present)

Community Involvement, Memberships & Affiliations

- Federal Bureau of Investigation Citizen's Academy, Chapter Member
- Family Time Foundation, Inc. – Crisis Hotline, Personal Accompaniment Volunteer (PAV) for sexual assault victims, Crisis Response Team for the Harris County Sheriff's Department, District II; legal advocate at The Door (domestic violence shelter)
- University of Texas at Austin Longhorn Foundation Member
- Texas Ex Lifetime Member and Forty Acres Scholarship Member
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Calf Scramble

Committeeman

- Vice Chairman (2020 – present)
- Captain (2017 – 2020)