

RORY R. OLSEN
Judge of Probate Court Number Three
Harris County, Texas
Civil Courthouse
201 Caroline
Seventh Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

Effective January 1, 2019:
11007 Cranbrook Road
Houston, Texas 77042
713-553-0783

DEGREES

B.A., Loyola University, 1971.

J.D., Duke University, 1974.

M.B.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1976.

LL.M., Southern Methodist University, 1980.

Master of Judicial Studies, University of Nevada (Reno), 2010.

BOOKS, PAPERS, ARTICLES, TELEVISION and FILM APPEARANCES

"Practical and tax consideration in deciding who should be a trustee"

July, 1981, Estate Planning

Co-authored with David C. Sharman, Esq.

Reprinted in Advanced Estate Planning by the American College

"Community Property at a Glance"

Readings on Estate Planning, 1983 by the American College

December, 1983

Texas Society of C.P.A.s C.P.E. Expo
"VEBAs, 401(k)s and SEPs: Gimmicks or Valuable Techniques"
Speech and Publication

"Future Interests"
The Handbook of Estate Planning by Dow, Jones Irwin,
Ed. D. Larry Crumbley, Ph.D., 1988

July, 1990
Texas Association of Life Underwriters Annual Convention
"Errors and Omission Insurance"
Speech and Publication

May, 1993
Dallas Chapter CLU and ChFC
"The Insurance Agent's Role in the Estate Planning Team"
Speech

July, 1993
Amarillo Association of Life Underwriters
"Creditor Protections of Life Insurance Products"
Speech

January, 1994
Wichita Falls Estate Planning Council
"Applicability of White Collar Criminal Statutes to Estate Planning Practice"
Speech and Publication

January, 1995
Valley Association of Life Underwriters
"Ethics in the Life Insurance Business"
Speech

January, 1999
Mexican American Bar Association
"Ad Litem in Mental Health Commitments and Heirships"
Speech and Publication

February, 1999
Pasadena Bar Association
"Court No. Three Procedures"
Speech

October, 1999
Disability and Elder Law Attorneys Association
"Role of the Ad Litem in Proceedings under S.B. 30 in the Probate Courts"
Speech and Publication

September, 2000
Probate Court No. Three Mental Health Law Seminar
"Vienna Consular Notification Convention"
Speech and Publication

October, 2000
Houston Bar Association Seminar: Guardianship and Elder Law Issues for the
Practitioner and Ad Litem
"The Ethical Dilemma of the Guardianship Attorney Ad Litem: Doing Your Best,
Even If You Could Get By With Doing Much Less"
Speech and Publication

January 2001
Mediator Training Course
National Judicial College

June, 2001
State Bar of Texas: Advanced Estate Planning and Probate Seminar
Moderator

October, 2001
Probate Court #3
Chemical Dependency Law Seminar
"Ethical Trouble Spots in being a Mental Health ad Litem"
Speech and Publication

October, 2001
Course Faculty
National Judicial College
"Court Administrators for Judges and Court Administrators"

November, 2001
Disability and Elder Law Attorneys
"Judicial Privilege and Related Topics"
Speech and Publication

January, 2002
Ben Taub Hospital
"Legal System—Court, Commitments, Documentation"
Speech

February, 2002
Houston Bar Association
2002 Wills & Probate Institute
Panel Discussion

April, 2002
Houston Bar Association
HBA Criminal Bench Bar Conference 2002
"Mental Health Issues"
Speech with Pamela Thacker, Esq.
Speech

May, 2002
Houston Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors
Monthly Meeting
"Public Service"
Speech

September, 2002
South Texas College of Law
Wills and Probate Institute
Moderator

March, 2003
Garland Walker Chapter
American Inns of Court
"Crouching Lawyer, Hidden Disorder"
Moderated Panel Discussion

May, 2003
South Texas College of Law
Elder Law Conference
Moderator

June, 2003
National Judicial College
Reno, Nevada
"Managing Cases Involving Persons with Mental Disabilities"
Co-designed and co-taught this two day course

October, 2003
Probate Court #3
Mental Health Law Seminar

“A Lack of Commitment: Selected Constitutional Cases Dealing with Mental Health Law”

Speech and Publication

March, 2004

Course Faculty

National Judicial College

“Practical Approaches to Substance Abuse Issues”

Course Faculty

April, 2004

Houston Bar Association, Probate Section

“Changes in Probate Court Procedures”

Panel Discussion

September, 2004

South Texas College of Law

Estate Planning and Probate Conference

Moderator

October, 2004

National Judicial College

Reno, Nevada

“Managing Cases Involving Persons with Mental Disabilities”

Co-designed and co-taught this two day course

April, 2005

Texas Guardianship Association

Spring Conference

“View from the Bench”

Panel Discussion

September, 2005

South Texas College of Law

Estate Planning and Probate Conference

Moderator

January, 2006

Houston Bar Association, Probate Section

“Ad Litem and DNRs: or Who woke the sleeping firefighter?”

Speech and Publication

September, 2006

Good Will Win in the End

A novel of judicial life, love and politics published by Booklocker.com, Inc.

October, 2006

Sisters in Crime (Mystery Writers)
"Probate in Fact and Fiction"
Speech

September, 2007
South Texas College of Law
Wills and Probate Institute
Moderator and Panelist

November, 2007
Probate Court #3
Mental Health Law Seminar
"Social Science and the Law"
Speech and Publication

February, 2010
Texas Tech University School of Law
Estate Planning & Community Property Law Journal Seminar
"End of Life Decisions in the Era of Rationed Care"
Speech and Publication

March, 2010
North Harris County Bar Association
Monthly CLE Program
"All You Ever Wanted to Know About Probate Court #3"
Speech and Publication

July, 2010
Appeared in "The M Unit," a documentary filmed by Sony Pictures

July, 2010
"Who Woke the Sleeping Firefighter?"
2 Estate Planning and Community Property LJ 275

September, 2010
Moderator
South Texas College of Law Guardianship and Ad Litem Certification Course

September 2012
Interviewed for a Public Affairs Program on Probate Courts with Cecilia Longoria
of the Harris County Attorney's Office
VAN TV, Channel 55.2.

February, 2013
Panelist in a "View From the Bench" part of "Mentor Madness"
Garland Walker Inns of Court.

February, 2013

“Emergency Mental Health Care: How to Navigate in Harris County”
50 The Houston Lawyer 26

June, 2013

“Funding, compassion can help treat mental illness” June 23, 2013 Article in the Outlook portion of *The Houston Chronicle*

March, 2014

Probate Court #3
Mental Health Law Seminar
“Advanced Out-Patient Treatment”
Speech

May, 2014

“Mental Health Violence: The Problem is Money”
Opinion Piece on Brietbart.com/Texas, May 7, 2014
<http://www.breitbart.com/Breitbart-Texas/2014/05/07/Mental-Health-Violence-The-Problem-is-Money>

May, 2014

Disability and Elder Law Attorneys
“Differences Between Incapacity and Mental Illness”
Speech and Publication

June, 2015

State Bar of Texas
Advanced Estate Planning and Probate Seminar
“What a Practitioner Should Do If He Suspects Another Lawyer in a Case Is Impaired” Panel Discussion
Paper: “A Lawyer’s Quick Guide to the DSM-5”

June, 2017

State Bar of Texas
Advanced Estate Planning and Probate Seminar
“Mediation In Trusts and Estates” Panel Discussion
Paper (2): Questionnaire containing original research on how mediations are conducted in Texas; Annotated Bibliography of mediation scholarship.

COURSES TAUGHT

Taught Chartered Life Underwriter courses in Estate Planning, Retirement Plans and Financial Planning at the University of Houston for six years.

Organized and co-taught a course on Mental Health Law at the National Judicial College in 2003 and 2004.

Organized and taught a class on Guardianships at the University of Houston Law Center for the Spring, 2009 semester.

Guest lecturer at South Texas College of Law course on Administration of Decedents and Guardianship Estates in October, 2013.

ADDITIONAL CREDENTIALS

2001 Completed forty-hour mediator training at the National Judicial College.

2003 Certificate in Settlement Techniques from the National Judicial College.

2003 Certificate in General Jurisdiction Trial Skills from the National Judicial College.

2004 Certificate in Court Management from the National Judicial College.

Member, American Law and Economics Association; Federalist Society.

2007 Successfully completed the IS-100, IS-200, IS-700 and IS-800 in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) training program.

February, 2008: Recipient of Judge of the Year Award from P.O.L.I.C.E., Inc.

2011-12: Elected Local Administrative Judge of the Harris County Probate Courts.

2013-14: Designed and implemented a new assisted outpatient treatment program with the Harris County MHMRA and the University of Texas to reduce the rate of recidivism in the public mental health program.