

CARTER SCHOLER



Karen Gren Scholer | Principal & Co-Managing
Partner

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STATE DISTRICT JUDGE (RET)

Karen Gren Scholer is a principal and co-managing partner of Carter Scholer. Karen has extensive trial experience as both an advocate and as a judge.

In 2009, Karen returned to private practice after eight years of judicial service as a state district judge where she presided over thousands of civil cases, including more than 100 cases tried to jury verdict. During her time on the bench, Karen served as Presiding Judge of the Dallas County Civil District Judges and was appointed by the Supreme Court of Texas as a multidistrict litigation judge. In 2013, the Governor of the State of Texas appointed Karen to serve as a temporary Justice on the Tenth Court of Appeals.

Prior to taking the bench, Karen had a successful civil litigation practice that spanned over 18 years as a litigation partner at two major Texas law firms. More recently, Karen was a litigation partner in the global law firm Jones Day. Karen has represented companies and individuals in a wide variety of civil cases, including the representation of international manufacturers in multidistrict litigation and as lead lawyer in multimillion dollar business disputes. Karen has also served as mediator, arbitrator, and umpire in complex commercial cases in both state and federal court.

Karen is recognized as one of the top lawyers in Texas, having been selected for inclusion in Thomson Reuters' *Super Lawyers*® (Texas) and *D Magazine*'s Best Lawyer lists since 2011, shortly after she retired from the bench. Karen is AV-rated, receiving the highest rating possible of AV® Preeminent™ (5.0 out of 5) Peer Review Rating.

Karen's practice focuses on complex business, tort and other civil litigation in state and federal courts.

Honors and Distinctions:

- Martindale-Hubbell AV® Preeminent™ (5.0 out of 5) Peer Review Rating (rated by Martindale-Hubbell from 1991 - present)
- The Best Lawyers in America in Commercial Litigation (2010 – 2017)
- The Best Lawyers in America in Arbitration (2017)
- Best Lawyers Business Edition Women in Law – Commercial Litigation (2016)

- Best Lawyers Business Edition Women of Influence – Alternative Dispute Resolution and Commercial Litigation (2017)
- D Magazine Best Lawyers in Dallas (2011 – 2017)
- Thompson Reuters’ Super Lawyers® Texas (2011 – 2017)
- Thompson Reuters Super Lawyers® The Top 50 Women Lawyers Texas (2012-2013, 2017)
- D Magazine Best Women Lawyers (2010)
- Dallas Asian American Bar Association Lifetime Achievement Award (2008)
- Dallas Ft. Worth Asian-American Citizens Council You Are Always Here for Us Award (2008)
- Dallas Women Lawyers Association Louise B. Raggio Award (2007)
- Dallas Ft. Worth Asian-American Citizens Council Civil Servant of the Year Award (2007)
- National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Trailblazer Award (2006)
- State Bar of Texas Asian Pacific Interest Section Justice David Wellington Chew Award (2005)
- Girls, Incorporated, She Knows Where She’s Going Award (2004)
- Greater Dallas Asian American Chamber of Commerce Judicial Excellence Award (2004)
- Dallas Ft. Worth Asian-American Citizens Council Role Model Award for Outstanding Public & Community Service (2001)

Professional Associations and Community Involvement:

- State Bar of Texas
 - Litigation Section, Council Member, 2003-2012
 - Litigation Section, Grants Committee, Chair, 2007-2009
 - *The Advocate*, Editorial Board, 2004-Present
 - Advanced Civil Litigation Seminar, Co-director, 2006
- Dallas Bar Association
 - Board of Directors, 2007
 - Judiciary Committee, Co-Chair, 2016
 - Ethics Committee, Co-chair, 2008
 - Professionalism, Bench Bar Co-chair, 2002
- Collin County Bar Association
- AAA Roster of Neutral (Arbitrators), Member
- Dallas Bar Foundation, Life Benefactor Fellow
 - Chair, 2012
 - Vice Chair, 2011
 - Secretary-Treasurer, 2010
- National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Member
 - NAPABA 16th Annual Convention, Co-chair, 2004

- Judicial Council, 2001-2008
- Dallas Asian American Bar Association, Member
- Intensive Trial Advocacy Course, Visiting Faculty, Notre Dame Law School, South Bend, Indiana 2009-2017
- Association of Rice Alumni, Board of Directors, 2004-2007
- The Cornell Law Association, Executive Board, 2003-2007
- Attorneys Serving the Community, 2002-present
 - Luncheon, Co-chair, 2003, 2004

Representative Speaking Engagements (partial listing):

- Panelist, Judicial Panel: “The State of the Texas Judiciary,” U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Defending Free Enterprise in the Texas Courts, April 2015
- Moderator, Judicial Panel: “Dos and Don’ts,” State Bar of Texas, Advanced Civil Trial Course, August 2014
- Moderator, Appellate Justices Panel Discussion: “Avoidable Mistakes in the Trial Courts,” State Bar of Texas, Advanced Civil Trial Course, August 2013
- Moderator, Judges Panel Discussion: “Quality Lawyering and Avoiding Sanctions,” State Bar of Texas, Advanced Civil Trial Course, August 2013
- Moderator, “The Legal Landscape for Minority Investors Circa 2013: Recent Developments Regarding Claims by Minority Shareholders in Public & Private Companies,” State Bar of Texas, Annual Meeting, Business Law & Corporate Counsel Law Sections, June 2013
- Program Director, Moderator & Panelist, “Inspiring Women: Humor and War Stories to Reach the Top of Your Game,” Dallas Bar Association, 2008-2015
- Panelist, “Judicial Panel,” State Bar of Texas, Receiverships in Texas 2012, November 2012
- Speaker/Moderator, “I Object & Beyond,” State Bar of Texas, Adv. Civil Trial Course, August 2012
- Speaker/Moderator, “Quality Lawyering From the Judges – ‘What They Didn’t Teach You in Law School,’” State Bar of Texas, Advanced Evidence and Discovery, April & May 2012
- Panelist, Litigation Update Institute, Voir Dire Demonstration, State Bar of Texas, January 2012
- Speaker/Moderator, “It’s All Business: Lawyer/Judge Ethics in Business Cases and Beyond,” State Bar of Texas, Business Torts Institute, October 2011
- Speaker/Moderator, Judges Ethics Panel, State Bar of Texas, Advanced Civil Trial Course, August 2011
- Speaker/Moderator, “Views on Professionalism From the Trial Bench: How a Better Understanding Will Improve Your Advocacy,” J. Reuben Clark Law Society 2011 Conference, February 2011
- Keynote Speaker, “Bridging the Gap Between Our Heritage & Success,” University of North Texas, Asian Pacific American Empowerment Conference, November 2010
- Panelist, “Do’s and Don’ts for Appellate Lawyers in the Trial Courts and on Appeal,” Dallas Bar Association, Appellate Law October Fest, October 2010

- Moderator, “Do’s and Don’ts from the Federal Judges,” State Bar of Texas, Advanced Civil Trial Course, July 2009
- Speaker, “Advanced Strategies & Tactics in Using Experts Ten Years After Robinson,” State Bar of Texas, Advanced Civil Trial Course, Fall 2008
- Moderator & Panelist, “Voir Dire,” State Bar of Texas, Annual Advanced Civil Trial Course, Fall 2007
- Panelist, “What Works (and What Doesn’t Work) in Litigation: Tips for Experts from the Bench and Bar,” National Litigation Support Services Association, Las Vegas, Nevada 2007

Education:

- Cornell University Law School, 1982, Ithaca, New York
Juris Doctor
- Rice University, 1979, Houston, Texas
Bachelor of Arts

Admissions:

- Texas, 1982
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, 1996
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, 1982
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, 1990

Practice Areas:

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Business Litigation
- Complex Tort Litigation