# Hon. SONYA L. HEATH

201 Caroline, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor • Houston, TX 77002 (713) 274-1310

sonya\_heath@justex.net

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE		
310 <sup>TH</sup> FAMILY DISTRICT COURT	2019 - Present	
Presiding Judge, Family Division Administrative Judge 2025-26		
THE LAW OFFICE OF SONYA HEATH	2010 - 2018	
Solo Practitioner		
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT	2013 - 2015	
Criminal Justice Act Attorney for the Southern District of Texas, McAllen Division		
THE CRAIG WASHINGTON LAW FIRM	2008 - 2010	
Associate Attorney		
NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW COUNCIL	1993 - 2010	
Conference Planner		
FIRST COURT OF APPEALS	2007 - 2008	
Judicial Intern to Justice George Hanks		
HIRSCH & WESTHEIMER, P.C.	2007	
Summer Law Clerk for Pat Huttenbach, Esq.		
GODFREY, LEIBSLE, BLACKBOURN & HOWARTH, S.C.	2006	
Executive Legal Assistant and Real Estate Department Administrator		
EPSTEIN BECKER GREEN WICKLIFF & HALL, P.C.	1993 - 2005	
Executive Legal Assistant		
MEYER, CRIBBS & WILSON, P.C.	1984 - 1993	
Legal Secretary / IT Coordinator		
POLK COUNTY JUDGE WAYNE BAKER	1984	
Assistant Secretary		

#### THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW

Juris Doctorate, 2009

## University of Houston-Downtown

Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting, 2004

Bachelor of Business Administration in Administrative Management, 2005

### **SPEAKER AND PUBLICATIONS**

**EDUCATION** 

- ➤ Human Papillomavirus: Can the Legislature Mandate the Vaccine
  17 THE ADELPHIA LAW JOURNAL OF SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE OF LAW (2010-2011)
- Establishing Character of Marital Property Techniques
   Mexican-American Bar Association of Houston, September 11, 2017
- Judicial System Reform
  - Houston Community College, Central Campus, April 16, 2018
- Family Law Highlights, Court Policies and Procedures
  Houston Bar Association—Family Law Section, September 27, 2019
- ➤ Personnel Leadership-Talent Management Policies and Skills, University of Houston-Downtown President's Leadership Academy, February 27, 2020
- Family Law Highlights, Judicial Question/Answer
  Houston Bar Association—Family Law Section, March 4, 2020
- ➤ Zoom, or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Have Remote Hearings Houston Bar Association—Family Law Section, April 8, 2020

- ➤ Zoom Hearings in the Era of COVID-19
  The Houston Family Law Group, September 23, 2020
- ➤ How is Harris County Handling Jury Trials

  Mexican-American Bar Association of Houston, September 25, 2020
- ➤ Zoom Presentations From Judges' Perspectives Houston Bar Association, April 8, 2021
- > The Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act & The Uniform Interstate Family Support Act Mexican-American Bar Association of Houston, September 17, 2021
- ➤ In-Chamber Judicial Child Interview 2021 Texas Modern CLE Victims Webinar, October 6, 2021
- ➤ Technology in the Courtroom
  Houston Bar Association—2021 Family/Probate Bench Bar Conference, October 28, 2021
- ➤ Voir Dire and Property Issues
  Houston Bar Association—Family Law Section, January 5, 2022
- ➤ The Judges' Perspective on Child Custody Evaluations Texas Association of Domestic Relations Offices—36<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Conference, October 6, 2022
- Forget Me Not-Issues Easily Forgotten When Dividing Assets That May Have Future Complications for Clients Houston Bar Association—Family Law Section Fall CLE, October 28, 2022
- ➤ Planning/Managing Your Life (or Career) & Your Personal Finances That Lead to Success University of Saint Thomas (Cameron School of Business), November 30, 2022
- ➤ Harris County District Judges Part One Houston Bar Association—Family Law Section, February 1, 2023
- ➤ UHD Alumni Insight: Women on the Bench University of Houston-Downtown President's Lecture Series, March 26, 2025
- Flowers & Thorns: Working with Mental Health Professionals
  TexasBarCLE—Innovations: Breaking Boundaries in Child Custody Litigation, May 1, 2025

### ASSOCIATIONS

American Bar Association, Vice Chair, Family Law Committee	2009 –	2010
American Leadership Forum, Houston Gulf Coast Chapter, Sr. Fellow Class LV	2021 –	Present
Association of Women Attorneys, Member	2008 –	Present
Burta Rhoads Raborn Family Law American Inn of Court, Barrister	2018 –	Present
First Methodist Houston, Downtown Campus, Member	2006 –	Present
Gulf Coast Family Law Specialists, Member	2019 –	Present
Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo, Lifetime Member	2013 –	Present
Houston Bar Association, Law Library Committee 2021-22	2009 –	Present
International Academy of Family Lawyers, Fellow	2023 -	Present
Mexican-American Bar Association of Houston, Board of Directors 2009-22	2009 –	Present
Rotary Club, University Area Chapter, <i>President 2016-17</i>	2010 -	Present
State Bar of Texas, Family Law and Judicial Sections Member	2009 –	Present
Texas Bar Foundation, Fellow	2019 –	Present