

**Donna García Davidson**  
Attorney and Counselor at Law

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## **PROFESSIONAL**

SOLE PRACTITIONER: *Donna García Davidson, Attorney and Counselor at Law*

Represent various clients, including current and former state legislators, candidates, political parties, lobbyists, associations, and political action committees on campaign finance compliance, state government ethics issues, election law, including six recounts in 2016, lobby, redistricting, and open government issues; monitor Texas Ethics Commission hearings; litigate in administrative proceedings; prepare ethics memoranda for clients; litigate in various state and federal courts as needed; present trainings as requested by clients. July 2009 to Present.

OF COUNSEL: *Potts & Reilly, L.L.P.*

Partners: Susan E. Potts and Frank M. Reilly. Represented various clients, including current and former state legislators, on state government ethics issues, election law matters, and open government issues; litigated in administrative law proceedings before state agencies; monitored Texas Ethics Commission hearings; prepare ethics memoranda for clients; litigated in both federal and state district courts and the Supreme Court of Texas; presented trainings and briefings for various state agencies on ethics in government and at continuing legal education conferences and seminars; conducted legislative histories as needed; served as a lobbyist for the Republican Party of Texas and the firm as needed. March 2001 to June 2009.

GENERAL COUNSEL: *Republican Party of Texas*

State Chairman: Tina Benkiser. Represented the Party in both federal and state litigation, managed attorneys assisting in litigation; managed cases and outside counsel providing services to the Party; coordinated and conducted contract review; served as a lobbyist; provided other general counsel services. January 2005 to January 2007.

GENERAL COUNSEL: *Office of Lieutenant Governor Rick Perry*

Executive Assistant: Barry R. McBee. Served on Senior Staff as an advisor; appointed as Ethics Advisor; reviewed files, briefed the Lt. Governor, and presided over executions on behalf of the Lt. Governor as Acting Governor; reviewed contracts; monitored litigation; reviewed bonds and proclamations; analyzed a variety of issues including property, environmental, employment, consumer protection among others; served as policy analyst, bill analyst, and researcher on religious liberty, faith-based, abortion, administrative law, and affirmative action issues; recruited and managed pro bono law clerks; January 1999 to December 2000; served temporarily as a Deputy General Counsel in the officeholder's transition to the Office of Governor; December 2000 to February 2001.

ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL AND ETHICS ADVISOR: *Office of Governor George W. Bush*

General Counsel: Alberto R. Gonzales; Margaret A. Wilson. Appointed as ethics advisor; conducted ethics briefings, prepared and updated ethics policies, and prepared legal memoranda on ethics issues; coordinated all legislative activities for the General Counsel division as liaison with the Legislative division; initiated records retention policies; analyzed and summarized execution files and briefed the Governor; reviewed and made recommendations on pardon files; served as presenter on public information, open meetings, and ethics briefings. January 1995 to January 1999.

ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL: *Texas Department of Agriculture, Commissioner Rick Perry*

General Counsel: Geoffrey S. Connor. Served as legal support for Ethics Advisor; supervised implementation of records retention schedule; monitored federal court case; supervised law clerks; and prepared legal research memoranda. (Law Clerk from March 1991 to June 1991; September 1991 to August 1992. Special Assistant to the General Counsel from September 1992 to November 1992.) November 1992 to January 1995.

STUDENT ASSISTANT: *University of Texas School of Law, Assistant Dean Susana I. Alemán*

Assisted students in registration process and fulfilled other duties as assigned by the Office of Dean Mark G. Yudof. August 1990 to February 1991.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: *Texas House of Representatives*

State Representative Fred Hill of Richardson. Tracked legislation and researched bill histories; monitored agency proceedings; coordinated constituent casework; researched legal and legislative issues; met with various constituent groups regarding various issues of interest to the district. January 1989 to October 1989.

LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT: *Texas House of Representatives*

State Representative Ted Roberts of Corpus Christi. Tracked legislation and researched bill histories; monitored agency proceedings; coordinated constituent casework; researched legal and legislative issues; met with various constituent groups regarding various issues of interest including the Texas Catastrophic Property Insurance Pool. October 1985 to January 1989.

OTHER LEGAL EXPERIENCE: Two summer internships with ARCO Oil and Gas Company (1990 and 1991); tutor for the Minority Orientation Program (August 1990) at The University of Texas School of Law.

## **LICENSES**

State of Texas, 1992

United States District Court Western District of Texas, 2002

United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit, 2002

United States Supreme Court, 2002

## **EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Graduate: The University of Texas School of Law, Austin, J.D., May 1992

Undergrad: The University of Texas at Austin, B.J., 1981

Pan American University (now UT-Pan American), Edinburg, 1978-1979