



LATOSHA LEWIS PAYNE

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www.tkpllp.com

Latosha Lewis Payne is an experienced civil trial attorney with a diverse practice. For more than 15 years, Ms. Payne has litigated numerous personal injury, premise and product liability, toxic tort, wrongful death, breach of contract, insurance coverage, real estate disputes, employment wage-hour disputes, and environmental disputes in both state and federal courts throughout Texas. She has also served as counsel in appeals to the First, Third, and Ninth Texas state appellate courts, the Texas Supreme Court, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Tort Litigation

- Lead trial counsel in numerous personal injury and wrongful death cases involving asbestos and silica exposure in various state courts throughout Texas.
- Texas counsel in food contamination matters for several Fortune 500 companies.
- Trial counsel in trace benzene exposure case (settled at start of jury trial).
- Obtained one of the first no duty to warn summary judgments for national equipment manufacturer in Texas Asbestos MDL court.
- Counsel in Environmental cost recovery action.
- Second chair in jury trial of Mesothelioma personal injury asbestos case (settled during jury selection).
- Obtained summary judgment on issue of Ch. 95 premise owner liability against claims of contractor employee who alleged acute exposure to propylene oxide on client's premises caused significant personal injuries.
- First chair trial counsel in jury trial involving wrongful death asbestos claims (settled during jury selection).
- Obtained plaintiff jury verdict in personal injury case.

Other Litigation

- Lead trial counsel for plaintiff in first party insurance coverage dispute in state and federal court.
- First chair in jury trial to verdict involving a million dollar breach of contract/ partnership (resolved for less than pre-trial offer).
- Trial counsel in bench trial involving Fair Credit Reporting Act/ collection claims (successful defense judgment on all claims except one).
- Obtained 12(b)(6) dismissal of fraud, debt collection, and negligence claims against national mortgage company.
- Counsel in breach of contract and warranty case involving faulty design of a critical component in equipment manufactured by client.
- Lead trial counsel in environmental air permit contested case hearing.

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin, 2000, J.D.

Thomas J. Watson Post-Graduate Fellowship,
“Cultural Constraints on the Development of Women’s Sports”
in Kenya, Swaziland, Ghana and Jamaica, 1996-1997

Tulane University, H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial Women’s College,
1996, B.A. Environmental Studies and Political Science

LICENSURE AND BAR ADMISSIONS

State Bar of Texas, admitted to Texas state courts since 2000

Admitted to United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

Admitted to United States District Court, Southern, Western, Northern and Eastern Districts of
Texas

RECOGNITION

Mentor of the Year Award, Lifted Lifestyle, 2017

The National Black Lawyers, Top 100, 2015

Thomson Reuters: Super Lawyers Rising Star in Civil Litigation: Defense, 2010 – 2014

Thomson Reuters: Super Lawyers Rising Star in Environmental Litigation, 2008 – 2009

Robert L. Hainsworth Outstanding Service Award, Houston Lawyers Association, 2014

Fellow, American Bar Foundation, 2013

Momentum Award, Ivy Educational and Charitable Foundation, Inc., 2013

Top Lawyers, H Texas Magazine, 2009

Outstanding Service as Vice Chairperson, 83rd Annual National Bar Assoc. Convention, 2008

Graduate, ABA Trial, Torts & Insurance Practice Section’s Trial Academy, 2008

Top Lawyers for the People, H Texas Magazine, 2008

Top Professionals on the Fast Track, H Texas Magazine, 2007 and 2006

Woodrow B. Seals Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year, Houston Young Lawyers
Association, 2007

Nominee, Texas Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year, Texas Young Lawyers Assoc., 2007

Nominee, National Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year, American Bar Association, 2007

Fellow, Houston Bar Foundation, 2004

Life Fellow, Houston Young Lawyers Foundation, 2004

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PRESENTATIONS & PAPERS

Speaker, Effective Financial Management of a Law Firm,
State Bar of Texas African American Annual Summit, 2017

Speaker, Summary Judgments in State Court,
Houston Lawyers Association Annual Civil CLE, 2014.

Author, Supreme Court Unlikely to Overturn EPA Rules in Texas Challenge, Hou. Bus. J., 2013.

Co-author/ Speaker, Overview of Summary Judgment Practice in State Court, State Bar of Texas
31st Annual Advanced Civil Trial Course (Dallas, San Antonio, Houston, Austin), 2008.

Author, Certain Businesses at Potential Risk of Indoor Contamination, Hou. Bus. J.: Business
Survival, 2007.

Co-author/ Speaker, TROs and Temporary Injunctions: Organizing the Effort Under Time
Pressures, Univ. Hous. Litigation and Trial Tactics Seminar and Advanced Civil Litigation
Seminar, 2006.

Author, Texas Supreme Court Superfund Law Interpretation Allows Contribution Claims,
Clarifies 'Arranger' Liability, co-author, Mealey's Emerging Toxic Torts, 2005.

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Houston Bar Association: Fun Run Committee (2013 – 2014); Speakers Bureau Committee
(2012 – present); Special Olympics Committee (2003 – 2005 and 2014 – 2015)

Houston Lawyers Association (2001 – present), Board Member (2003 – 2008); President (2006-
2007)

Texas Executive Women (2015-present); President-Elect (2017); Secretary (2016); Vice
President of Membership (2015)

Houston Lawyers Foundation (2005-present), Chair of the Board (2009 – 2014)

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Greater Houston, Board of Directors (2004 – 2010); Chair,
Governance Committee

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Green Committee

Houston Young Lawyers Association, Board of Directors (2005); Car Seat Safety Committee,
Co-Chair (2007 – 2008); Leadership 2000 Committee; Crossing the Line Juvenile Law
Committee, Chair (2004 – 2006)