



Phillip C. Umphres, Attorney at Law

UNT Dallas – Adjunct Professor
Business Law 3330, Fall 2024

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PHILLIP C. UMPHRES is an attorney engaged in private practice as a criminal defense and civil trial attorney in Dallas, Texas. He has served as a military attorney, has been a partner in a nationally known law firm, and was an Assistant United States Attorney for over 16 years prior to returning to private practice in 2008. He has been an Adjunct Professor at UNT Dallas teaching Business Law since 2016.

Mr. Umphres is a native of Amarillo, Texas, a 1977 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin (B.B.A. with highest honors, majoring in Accounting) and a 1980 graduate of Harvard Law School. Following law school **Mr. Umphres** served for 4 years as a military prosecutor and defense counsel in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. After leaving the Army in 1984 he joined the Dallas offices of the law firm Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer and Feld where he was a civil trial and appellate lawyer concentrating in business litigation and appeals. He was a partner at Akin Gump from 1989-1991.

In 1991 **Mr. Umphres** joined the U.S. Attorney's Office in Dallas where he represented the United States in both civil and criminal litigation, spending the majority of his years in the office handling complex white collar and environmental crimes prosecutions. He served at various times as lead Environmental Crimes prosecutor, as coordinator for Criminal Health Care Fraud prosecutions, and as coordinator for criminal investigations involving threats against the President and other federally protected officials. While with the US Attorney's Office he was honored by being selected to be a member of the Department of Justice evaluation team responsible for inspecting and evaluating U.S. Attorney's offices nationwide. He retired from the Department of Justice in 2008.

Since 2008 **Mr. Umphres** has been a solo practitioner in Dallas, Texas. In 2020 he entered "semi-retirement" and now accepts only a limited number of cases and clients.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT:

- The Law Office of Phillip C. Umphres (Solo Practitioner) (now semi-retired)
- Adjunct Professor of Business Law, UNT Dallas

LEGAL & UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:

1977 – 1980 Harvard Law School (Doctor of Jurisprudence) (Member of Board of Editors, Harvard Journal on Legislation)

1973 – 1977 The University of Texas at Austin (BBA in Accounting with highest honors)

LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAW IN THE STATE OF TEXAS AND IN THE FOLLOWING FEDERAL COURTS:

- US Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals
- US District Court, Northern District of Texas
- US District Court, Eastern District of Texas
- US District Court, Western District of Texas
- US Court of Military Appeals

DESCRIPTION OF LEGAL EXPERIENCE:

The Law Office of Phillip C. Umphres: 2/2008 – Present **(semi-retired since 12/2020)**

Solo practice as a criminal defense attorney and civil trial attorney. Represents clients in both state and federal courts. Practice includes federal appellate representation, including representation of death row inmates on post-conviction writs. Represents individual and corporate clients before federal and state agencies and provides legal guidance on corporate and contract matters. Provides legal advice for several homeowners' organizations.

Office of the United States Attorney, NDTX: 4/1991 – 2/2008

Criminal trial attorney handling all types of cases. Also handled most of own appeals (over 25 briefs written and filed in Fifth Circuit). Was a reviewer for appellate briefs written by other AUSAs in the office. Temporary assignment (at request of chief of civil section) to civil section 4/21/97 – 3/31/99, handling civil defensive litigation for U.S. (mostly Title VII and medical malpractice cases.) Assigned at various times while in criminal section as office environmental crimes coordinator, criminal health care fraud coordinator and as U.S. Secret Service liaison for offenses relating to threats against the President and other protected individuals. Additional duties included supervision of office mentoring program for young attorneys. Member of Department of Justice EARS evaluation team 2003-2008 (participated in evaluations of other U.S. Attorney offices nationwide.)

Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, Dallas, TX: 1/1985 – 3/1991

Trial attorney handling commercial litigation and appeals. Partner in firm 1/89 - 3/91.

U. S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps: 1/1981 – 1/1985

Prosecutor and defense counsel handling courts-martial and administrative discharge boards in Germany (3d Armored Division) and at Fort Lewis, Washington. Legal advisor to army field commanders from Company to Division level.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS & OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES:

- Instructor, SMU Law School Trial Advocacy Program: 2004, 2005 and 2006.
- Lecturer at CLE programs on health care fraud, corporate fraud and accounting issues, trial skills and on other topics of current legal interest.
- Soaring Society of America, Inc. (10,000 member national organization supervising the sport of gliding and soaring in the United States):
 - Director: 1/2007 - 12/2017
 - Chairman of the Board of Directors: 1/2009 - 12/2010
 - Treasurer: 1/2007 - 12/2008 and 1/2014 - 12/2017
 - Trustee, SSA Foundation, Inc.: 1/2018 - present
 - Treasurer: 1/2018 - 12/2019, 1/2024 - present
 - Chairman: 1/2020 - 12/2023
- National Aeronautic Association (national umbrella organization overseeing aviation records and all sport aviation activities in the U.S.)
 - Director: 2009
 - Member of Jury selecting winner of Collier Trophy (highest US award given annually for aviation achievement): 2009
- Texas Soaring Association (Dallas area sport glider club):
 - Director: 2002 - 2003, 2005 - 2006, 2011 - 2012, 2023 - present
 - Treasurer: 2002 - 2003
 - President Elect: 2011, 2024
 - President: 2012
- Boundbrook Oaks HOA (neighborhood homeowners association)
 - President: 2013 - 2015
 - Treasurer: 2006 - 2007
 - Secretary: 2012, 2022 - present
- Leadership Dallas, class of 1995. Alumni Curriculum Committee: 1996 - 1998.
- First UMC Richardson, current.
 - Usher
 - Active in Missions Work Area