



Leslie W. Richardson

Partner

lwrichardson@thompsoncoe.com

214-871-8210

Leslie Richardson is a skilled mediator who assists parties in resolving disputes involving personal injury, wrongful death, business disputes, divorce and parenting agreements, and employment classification and discrimination. As a former plaintiffs' attorney and insurance claims analyst, Leslie's diverse experience provides for a unique and well-rounded perspective to help move a case toward resolution.

While some settlement agreements still require approval from the court (most often those involving the best interests of a child), mediation provides for an efficient and confidential forum where parties maintain control over the process to negotiate on their own terms—not the judge's and the jury's. Mediation can be the ideal alternative to a trial or the perfect and intentional punctuation to a lawsuit.

Leslie also volunteers at the Dallas County Dispute Resolution Center (DCDRC), providing services on a *pro bono* basis and helping the DCDRC serve an unmet need to the residents of Dallas County.

Mediation Fee Schedule

Rates effective as of January 1, 2023

- **Two-Hour Session** | \$350 per party | Simple 2-party cases only
- **Half-Day Session** | \$600 per party
Half-day sessions generally begin at 9 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. and last for four (4) hours. Lunch is not provided for half-day sessions.*
- **Full-Day Session** | \$1,200 per party
Full day mediation sessions generally begin at 9 a.m. and last for eight (8) hours. Lunch is provided by the mediator for full-day mediations.**

*Half-day cases that exceed four (4) hours may result in overtime charges.

******Leslie is committed to working on the case throughout the evening, if necessary. Full-day sessions exceeding the allotted eight-hour time period may incur overtime charges.

For scheduling and availability, please email Leslie or her assistant, Beth Verweij.

The mediation fee is stated on a “per party” basis. The number of parties is determined by counting all parties represented by the same counsel as one party. Additionally, if one party is represented by multiple attorneys, that party is still considered as one party. Related parties, even with aligned interests, are considered as separate parties if they have separate counsel. The mediation fee shall be deemed fully earned at the commencement of the initial mediation session. Payment of the mediation fee is due within ten (10) days of the confirmation of the mediation, but not later than the commencement of the mediation session.

Currently, Leslie does not charge a cancellation fee, so long as this privilege is not abused. She requests that any party needing to cancel make every effort to do so at least seven (7) days before the scheduled mediation.

Litigation

Leslie also represents and serves as an advocate for her clients in matters involving personal injury, wrongful death, business disputes, and employment classification and discrimination. Leslie’s experience provides for a diverse and well-rounded perspective throughout the life of a lawsuit. With her training and experience as a mediator, Leslie also assists litigants in efficiently and effectively resolving their disputes.

She has represented a wide variety of clients, including national retailers and hotels, software companies, international production companies, non-profit organizations, community managers, major insurance companies, small business owners, oil companies and contractors, municipalities, city employees, and injured workers. These matters have involved claimed damages ranging from a few thousand to hundreds of millions of dollars.

As a service to her clients, Leslie provides seminars and training on a variety of topics, including tort litigation, claims investigation, and ethics.

In the area of employment law, Leslie represents employers who are non-subscribers to workers’ compensation in Texas and frequently defends clients in lawsuits and arbitration brought by workers who have sustained injuries on the job. Leslie also represents employers throughout Texas against claims involving employment classification, discrimination, retaliation, and wrongful termination. Recognizing the unique and often sensitive nature of employment lawsuits, she strives to collaborate with her clients to achieve creative and favorable outcomes for complicated problems.

Representative Experience

Obtained summary judgment and dismissal of COVID-related death claims against an employer pursuant to the Pandemic Liability Protection Act, enacted in June 2021.

Obtained summary judgment pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Exclusive Remedy defense.

Obtained order granting dismissal of claims brought under the Truth in Lending Act, Federal Credit Reporting Act, and the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act.

Obtained summary judgment in Dallas County case related to business property damage dispute.

Successfully defended against Application for Temporary Injunction in Dallas County related to fraud, breach of contract, and Deceptive Trade Practices Act.

Obtained Rule 12(b)(6) dismissal of over \$2,000,000 contribution claim related to pipeline explosion.

Obtained numerous take nothing awards as lead counsel in Texas non-subscriber work injury arbitrations on behalf of major U.S. retailers and hotels.

Obtained favorable arbitration award for major U.S. retailer equating to approximately 1 percent of the plaintiff's final demand.

Successfully compelled arbitration in multiple Texas non-subscriber cases in Dallas and El Paso Counties.

Successfully negotiated favorable settlements in countless personal injury, non-subscriber, medical malpractice, homeowners' associations, employment discrimination, and high-stakes commercial disputes.

Obtained Rule 12(b)(6) dismissal of claims brought under the Truth in Lending Act, Federal Credit Reporting Act, and the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act.

Successfully compelled arbitration in multiple Texas non-subscriber cases in Dallas and El Paso Counties.

Awards & Recognition

TEXAS SUPER LAWYERS - RISING STAR

Listed for Civil Litigation: Defense

2022-2024

Related Services

Business and Commercial

Discovery

General Liability/Catastrophic Injury

Labor & Employment

Publications & Speaking Engagements

You Ain't from Around These Parts

Ethics Presentation, co-presenter

January 2020

Education, Admissions & Activities

EDUCATION

Texas Tech University School of Law

J.D., 2011

Law Review Comment Editor

The University of Texas at Austin

B.A., 2008

Psychology

Business minor

BAR ADMISSIONS

Texas

2011

COURT ADMISSIONS

Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals

United States District Court of Texas

Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Dallas Bar Association

DBA WE LEAD: Women Empowered to Lead in the Legal Profession

Dallas Asian American Bar Association

Dallas Women Lawyers Association

Lake Highlands Junior Women's League

Public Relations Director 2019-2021