

VALERIE K. COUCH

United States Magistrate Judge
200 N.W. 4th Street, Room 2017
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102
(405) 609-5280
judge_valerie_couch@okwd.uscourts.gov



Judicial Appointment Appointed as a United States Magistrate Judge in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma on March 8, 1999.

Judicial Nomination Nominated by President William Jefferson Clinton to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma on September 7, 2000.

Education B.A., 1974, University of California at Los Angeles, English Literature
M.A., 1978, University of Oklahoma, English Literature
J.D., 1983, University of Oklahoma College of Law

Law School Distinctions Order of the Coif
Articles Editor of *Oklahoma Law Review*
Oklahoma Bar Foundation Maurice Merrill Award for
Scholarship in the Field of Public Law
Cecil L. Hunt Memorial Scholarship
Student Bar Association Award for Professional Responsibility
-awarded by vote of the graduating class

Private Practice Hartzog Conger & Cason, P.C., May 1983 to March 1999
(Director and Shareholder for 11 years, 1988-1999)
General civil litigation practice in state and federal courts, including cases involving product liability, accountant malpractice, employment discrimination, contract disputes, securities litigation, intellectual property disputes, contested probate matters, trust actions, commercial transactions, hospital liability, and professional licensing proceedings. In addition to general civil litigation, practice included employment-related legal advice and management training for employers. Representative clients: international accounting firms, oil and gas companies, non-profit organizations, computer software companies, product manufacturers, local bottling companies, university hospitals, mental health centers and many individuals.

Bar Association Membership and Activities

- American Bar Association, 1983 to present
- American Bar Foundation, Oklahoma Fellow, 2000 to present
- Oklahoma Bar Foundation (a charitable foundation dedicated to providing funding for legal services to low income Oklahomans, improving access to justice and advancing legal education and citizenship)
 - Fellow, 2000 to present
 - Trustee on the Board of Trustees, 2007 to present
 - Chair of Grants and Awards Committee, 2008 to present
 - OBF President's Award, 2009
- Oklahoma Bar Association
 - Neil E. Bogan Professionalism Award, 2006
 - awarded annually to an OBA member who "for conduct, honesty, integrity and courtesy best represents the highest standards of the legal profession"
 - Mona Salyer Lambird Spotlight Award, 2003
 - awarded to OBA members for "superior leadership qualities and dedication to the advancement of women in law"
 - OBA President's Award, 2000
 - Commissioner, OBA Finances Commission, 2004
 - Commissioner, Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Commission, 2000-2002
 - Diversity Committee, 2000 to 2003
 - Bench and Bar Committee, 2000 to 2003
 - Law-Related Education Committee, 2000
 - Legal Ethics Committee, 1999
 - Labor and Employment Law Section, Chair, 1996-1997
 - Health Law Section, 1989-1998
 - Oklahoma Health Lawyers Association, Member, 1989-1998
- Oklahoma County Bar Association
 - President, 2002-2003
 - President-Elect, 2001-2002, Vice President, 2000-2001
 - Director, 1997 to 2000
 - Law Day Committee, Chair, 2001
 - Meritorious Service Awards, 1995 and 1998
 - Editor, *The Briefcase*, monthly publication of the OCBA, 1997 to 1999
 - State Media Coordinator, Justice '98 Legal Services Campaign, 1998
 - Lawyers Fund Drive for Legal Aid, Co-Chair, 1997
 - Law-Related Education Panel, 1995 to 2000
 - Legal Aid Committee, Chair, 1993-1995
- Federal Bar Association
 - President, Oklahoma City Chapter, 2009-2010

Other Professional Activities

William J. Holloway, Jr. American Inn of Court
President, 2002-2003
Master, 1997 to present
Program Committee, 1998, 2000
Mentorship Program Coordinator, 2004-2005
Luther Bohanon American Inn of Court, Barrister, 1988-1991
Federal Magistrate Judges Association, Member, 2000 to present

Teaching and Scholarship

Adjunct Professor, Oklahoma City University School of Law, 2000 to present
Judicial Instructor, Oklahoma City University
Certificate Program in American Law, 2007, 2008
-teaching practicing lawyers and law students from Tianjin, China
Federal Courts Law Review, Editorial Board, 2006 to present
-an online law review dedicated to legal scholarship relating to federal courts