

Ann Johnson

Ann is proud to work for Harris County District Attorney Devon Anderson as a human trafficking specialist focusing on protecting victims and prosecuting those who exploit them.

Ann Johnson is from Houston, Texas, the youngest child of Jake and the Honorable Carolyn Marks Johnson. Growing up in her family's law firm, she learned from her parents the honor of being someone's trial attorney. As a lawyer herself, Ann has experienced the awesome responsibility of standing in a courtroom and speaking for those who are unable to speak for themselves.

Ann earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Texas and her law degree from South Texas College of Law. After graduation, Ann worked as a briefing attorney for the Honorable Leslie Brock Yates, then a Justice on the Fourteenth Court of Appeals. Afterward, Ann became a prosecutor with the Harris County District Attorney's Office.

In 2005, Ann left the District Attorney's Office and entered private practice, where she represented citizens with civil, criminal and juvenile matters. Ann's docket included the representation of many child victims of prostitution, and she was a founding member of the GIRLS Court, a special court dedicated to assisting children lawfully brought to the juvenile justice system who may also be victims of human trafficking.

Ann also pursued an active appellate practice, litigating cases in the First and Fourteenth Courts of Appeals and the Texas Supreme Court. One of her most significant cases was *In re B.W.*, in which the Texas Supreme Court reversed the Harris County District Attorney's prosecution of a 13-year-old child for prostitution and created a framework for protecting child victims of exploitation and human trafficking.

Ann is also an adjunct professor of law at South Texas College of Law. She teaches courses on voir dire and jury communication, trial skills, and mock trial litigation.

Ann is also a member of the American Leadership Forum's Criminal Justice Fellows Program, a program designed to join and strengthen leaders involved in the criminal justice community.