

**MARIA “MARIFER” ACEVES
PRESIDING JUDGE, 192ND CIVIL DISTRICT COURT
DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS**

EXPERIENCE

192ND CIVIL DISTRICT COURT; Dallas County, Texas

Presiding Judge, January 2023- Present.

- Presided over dozens of jury trials, bench trials, and hundreds of civil hearings.

ACEVES LAW, PLLC; Irving, TX

Owner, November 2017- December 2022.

- Managed personal injury firm litigating cases in Texas state and federal courts.
- Handled over 50 guardian ad litem appointments in Texas state and federal courts.
- Completed 40 hours basic mediation training and received Mediation Certificate from Manouso Mediation.

CRAIN, LEWIS, BROGDON, LLP; Dallas, TX

Attorney, November 2016 – November 2017.

- Assisted with pre-litigation handling of claims and worked on litigation files in Texas state courts.
- Assisted the criminal defense team including as second chair in a Texas state court for DWI case and received a not-guilty verdict; and assisted as part of the trial team in a large white collar case in federal court in which we received a not-guilty verdict.

WALTERS, BALIDO & CRAIN; Dallas, TX

Associate Attorney, November 2013 – November 2016.

- Litigated in state and federal courts and tried jury trials with defense verdicts.
- Drafted pleadings and argued hearings on traditional and no-evidence motions for summary judgment, Daubert motions, motions to strike billing affidavits, motions for new trial, motions to dismiss, special exceptions, motions to sever and abate, motions for continuance, motions to compel, and several other motions and briefs.
- Took and defended numerous plaintiff depositions, witness depositions, and expert depositions.
- Drafted pre-trial/pre-mediation reports, comprehensive reports, initial case analysis reports, deposition summaries, discovery summaries, and summaries of plaintiffs' medical bills and records.

THE HONORABLE MARTIN HOFFMAN, 68TH DISTRICT COURT; Dallas, TX

Internship, June 2011- August, 2011; August 2013 - November 2013.

- Observed multiple trials ranging from personal injury to complex commercial cases.
- Observed evidentiary hearings and non-evidentiary hearings in all areas of civil litigation.
- Researched and drafted a memorandum concerning the disqualification of a law firm due to a conflict of interest, and researched and drafted a memorandum on a motion to enforce a jury waiver by non-signatory defendants against a non-signatory plaintiff stemming from an agreement containing a jury waiver.
- Researched case law and legal matters for the Court.

EDUCATION**SMU DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW**

Juris Doctor, May 2013

- Hispanic Law Students Association, Treasurer, 2012-2013, Student Member 2011-2012.
- International Law Review Association, Staff Editor, 2012-2013.
- Best Comment Semi-Finalist, Maria Fernanda Aceves, Comment, *Slim's Playground: Telmex's Monopoly of the Telecommunications Industry in Mexico*, 19 Law & Bus. Rev. Am. 217 (2013).

OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Attended 2010-2011.

- Hispanic Law Students Association, Student Member 2010-2011.

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Arts in International Studies, Minors in Political Science and History, May 2010

- Pi Beta Phi Sorority.
- Intern at the Dallas Committee on Foreign Relations, Spring 2010.
- SMU Honor Transfer Scholarship for Half-Tuition which required a minimum of 3.7 GPA and 50 credits to acquire.

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

Attended 2006-2007.

- Model United Nations, Spring 2007.

PUBLICATIONS

- Maria Fernanda Aceves, Comment, *Slim's Playground: Telmex's Monopoly of the Telecommunications Industry in Mexico*, 19 Law & Bus. Rev. Am. 217 (2013).

ADMISSIONS

- Admitted to the State Bar of Texas; Eastern District of Texas; and Northern District of Texas.

COMMUNITY

- Avance North Texas Board of Directors and Secretary, 2019-2022.
- Latino Street Fest Organizing Committee and Public Relations Committee, 2019-2020.
- Dallas Hispanic Bar Association, Board Member, 2020;
- DBA We Lead, Leadership Class of 2020;
- Dallas Bar Association, ABE Survey Task Force Update, 2020-2021;
- Dallas Bar Association, Mock Trial Committee and Mock Trial Judge, 2019-2021.
- Dallas Bar Association, Mock Voir Dire Participant, 2016, 2017, and 2019 and Co-Chair of Mock Voir Dire, 2021 and 2022.
- Dallas Bar Association, Law in Schools Committee, Equality Committee and Mock Trial Committee, 2021.
- Dallas Bar Association, Chair of the Law in Schools Committee, 2022
- Mac Taylor Inn of Court, Mentoring Committee, 2021-2023.
- Mac Taylor Inn of Court, Programming Committee, 2024.
- American Inns of Court-ABOTA Dallas Chapter Trial Academy, 2016 and 2017;

- Dallas Trial Lawyers Association, Diversity Committee 2021-2022.
- Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, Member and Trial Skills Bootcamp Committee, 2015, 2020.
- Texas Latinx Judges, Board Member, 2023-2024.
- SMU Dedman School of Law Community Fellow for 1L Law Students, 2023-2024.
- Participated in numerous panel discussions.

AWARDS

- D Magazine Best Lawyers Under 40, 2022
- Super Lawyers Texas Rising Star, 2019-2022;
- National Trial Lawyers Top 40 Under 40, 2017-2021;
- American Institute of Personal Injury Attorneys 10 Best Attorneys in Client Satisfaction, 2018-2019;
- Attorney and Practice Magazine Top 10 Personal Injury Attorney, 2019;
- National Academy of Personal Injury Attorneys Top 10 Personal Injury Attorney Under Age 40. 2019; and
- America’s Top 100 Personal Injury Attorneys, 2020.
- Presidential Citation from the Dallas Bar Association, 2022.
- DHBA and Latina Style Magazine Women of Distinction Award, 2022.
- D Magazine Women of Influence, 2023.

LANGUAGES

- Fluent in Spanish.