**Paul C. Looney**

Looney, Smith & Conrad, P.C.

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Paul Looney brings over 30 years of criminal defense law to clients in Houston, throughout the State of Texas and across the nation. A graduate of West Texas State University, he earned degrees in economics and political science and his Doctorate of Jurisprudence from South Texas College of Law.  Paul has years of experience trying personal injury and civil cases too.

**Paul Looney has won 60 criminal defense trials since 1995 with ZERO final convictions.**

**License**

Acquired in 1990, Paul is eligible to practice law in the State of Texas. He is also an active out-of-state attorney permitted to practice in the State of Illinois.

**Awards**

In 2015, Paul was awarded the designation of “Fellow” by the Texas Bar Foundation, one of the highest honors bestowed by the Texas Bar. In 2015 he was named “Nation’s TOP ONE Percent” by the National Association of Distinguished Counsel. Also in 2015, he was named one of Houston’s Top Lawyers by H Texas magazine.

In 2014, Paul was named a “Top 100 Trial Lawyer” by the National Trial Lawyers, a premier group of attorneys practicing criminal defense or civil plaintiff law. This honor is extended to those individuals who exemplify superior qualifications, trial results and leadership.

In 2011 Paul was named a “Super Fellow” by the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Education Institute. In 1988 he earned a position on the Dean’s Honor List at South Texas College of Law and the same year was named to the Law Fraternity International, Phi Alpha Delta. In 1978 he was placed on the National Social Science Honor Society, Phi Gamma Mu and the Economics Honor Society, Omicron Delta Upsilon.

**Experience**

From 1996 to present, Paul has been a Trial Lawyer with Looney, Smith & Conrad, P.C. Prior to that he was a Trial Lawyer with Lamson & Looney, P.C.

**Pro Bono**

Paul conducts two free legal clinics weekly, one every Thursday at 5:30pm at his Hempstead office and the other every Saturday morning at 8:30am in Bellville. He won an award in conjunction with the Austin and Waller County Bar Associations in 2014 – the Pro Bono Service Award from the State Bar of Texas for the Saturday Free Legal Clinic and several attorneys rotated duty but Paul was almost always there. Eventually he became the only attorney to conduct the clinic in Bellville.

Paul also represented six of the 177 cases from the 2015 Twin Peaks melee in Waco involving several motorcycle clubs and law enforcement in which nine people died and 20 were injured. Paul also assisted in obtaining pro bono attorneys for 13 more of the bikers arrested following the shootout (in addition to the six he took himself).

In 2019, Paul won the prestigious Charles D. Butts Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year award given by the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association for his work with the two free legal clinics as well as his services in the four years following the Twin Peaks melee.

**Associations**

Paul has been an attorney and counselor of law in many different courts including the U.S. District Court, District of Colorado, the United States Tax Court, the Northern District of Texas District Court, the United States Court of Federal Claims, the United States District Court Eastern District of Michigan and the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Paul is an attorney member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, the Supreme Court of Texas, Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International and the Texas Trial Lawyers Association.

Paul was the founding President of the Waller County Bar Association, was an Executive Committee Member of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (2000), a Board Member of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, Education Institute (1999-2003) and a Board Member of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (1990-1999). He is currently a member of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and the Harris County Criminal Lawyers Association.

**Committees**

After the tragic death of Sandra Bland in the Waller County, Texas jail in Hempstead, on July 30, 2015, a committee was formed at the request of Waller County Sheriff R. Glenn Smith to observe the inner workings of the Sheriff’s Office and to report on and recommend practices and policies to benefit the Office and the citizens of Waller County. Paul served as a non-voting *ex-officio* member and formed the five-person committee. The committee went on to recommend practices that not only would benefit the Waller County jail but jails throughout the entire United States.

**Publications**

The July, 2015 issue of the Texas Bar Journal featured Paul in the article, *“Way Out Yonder”* by Lindsay Stafford Mader, about Texas attorneys making profitable practices in rural communities (featuring Looney & Conrad’s Hempstead office).

*“Proceeding Vaguely: Obstruction of a Pending Proceeding Under 18 U.S.C. 1505”* published in 2014 by The Champion, the renowned magazine of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

*“Jury Persuasion in Criminal Cases: Utilizing ‘Solution Selling’ Techniques”* published in November, 2014 by the Voice, the magazine of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

**Speaking Engagements**

Paul presented, *“Jury Persuasion in Criminal Cases: Utilizing ‘Solutions Selling’ Techniques”* at the Continuing Education Stanford Law School in 1998.

File: Paul Looney CV updated August 2020