



Chris Oldner

FAMILY LAW

It's rare that someone in the midst of a divorce can benefit from the perspective of a family court judge when building their case, but this is exactly what the clients of Chris Oldner receive. He spent 17 years on the bench hearing family, civil, and criminal law matters as a judge before becoming a family lawyer. When he retired as a judge in 2016, Oldner knew he wanted to use the experience and insight he gained in this role to help his clients in all family law matters. "During the past 30 years, I have been in the courtroom involved in trying cases one way or another," he says. "In 2016, I knew it was my last day on the bench, but not as a lawyer."

Oldner joined the Albin Law Group in 2020, and Albin Oldner Law Group, PLLC was created. Albin Oldner Law Group is a full-service law firm specializing in both family and civil law. As the family law section leader, Oldner leads a team of outstanding family law attorneys and paralegals. "I chose this specialty because of the impact it has on people's everyday lives," Oldner says. "Whether it is yourself or someone you know, almost everyone is impacted in some way by a family law situation that is life-changing, whether it is divorce or a child custody matter. These are all difficult things to go through. Because of my experience as a lawyer and as a judge, I can help people get to the other side of a tough situation."

Oldner has spent much of his career training and mentoring other lawyers, which has become one of the highlights of his decades-long career. He teaches fellow lawyers about what he learned as a judge so they can apply that coveted insight to their cases for their clients' benefit.

"Every lawyer in this firm has the ability to analyze cases in order to develop a creative approach," Oldner says. "We are in a unique position because we have practical, hands-on knowledge about what goes on the minds of a judge or factfinder, and we can tailor a case to that. It's an invaluable asset in our firm. We are a nimble and goal-oriented team, and we work together to find the best route toward helping a judge make the most obvious and productive choice. This requires creativity, hard work, and planning from the beginning of every case."

Oldner is one of only two lawyers in Collin County who is double board certified in family law and criminal law. He has been named a Best Lawyer in Dallas in *D Magazine* several times as well as a Super Lawyer. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the American Judges Association and a Texas Bar Foundation Fellow. He has been the recipient of the Mari Kay Bickett Judicial Excellence Through Education Award and the Exemplary Judicial Faculty Award from Texas Center for the Judiciary.

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