SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION **BEST** LAWYERS



Larry F. Taylor, Jr. MASS TORT AND CIVIL RIGHTS

Larry Taylor is the lawyer for "everyday folks," as he often says. From the client in urban America seeking to be heard to the small-town rural American wanting fairness, it all resonates with Taylor's passion to fight for the underdog.

Becoming a lawyer wasn't Taylor's initial career choice. In fact, it wasn't even his first career, which was investment securities. It wasn't until Taylor was involved in a land dispute with a large corporation when building his home, did he realize how important it is to have a good lawyer.

"I only needed an attorney one time before I became a lawyer," he says. "About the only thing that attorney helped me with was letting me know when to pay my next bill and everything he couldn't do for me. I wound up doing a better job than that lawyer in conveying my case to the other side." Because of this, Taylor takes the approach of understanding the mechanics of his case early on, whether it is a sensitive harassment case or complex multi-district litigation, to ensure that the case strategy has a sound foundation on which to build. As a result, Taylor is a highly requested legal correspondent who has received the praise of many legal giants on several high-profile cases because of his

Taylor's wife, a former lawyer and county court of law judge, took notice of her husband's negotiation and legal skills early on and urged him to go to law school. In fact, she registered him for the LSAT and enrolled him in Thurgood Marshal School of Law herself, and for years, Taylor drove back and forth from Dallas to Houston for law school. After working in local politics for a while, he joined The Cochran Firm where he now serves as managing partner. "I had once joked with her, saying I would be a better lawyer than she was, and she held me to it," Taylor says. "I have always gone in whatever direction life has taken me, and with law, I found my true purpose. I know what it is like to have a lawyer who doesn't fight for you or who doesn't have your best interests at heart. I never want anyone to feel that way when I represent them."

Taylor oversees mass torts, criminal, employment, civil rights, and sexual assault cases at The Cochran firm. He recently represented Dallas County in a large opioid case and serves on an executive committee in the fight against Big Pharma. Taylor is heavily involved in the community and is an ordained deacon. Taylor places an emphasis on communication with his clients, making himself available whenever they need his counsel.

"I actually listen, which is what sets me apart from many lawyers," Taylor says. "So many times, lawyers ask questions but have a preconceived response in their heads—never truly listening to what their clients say or want. My goal is to make sure my clients are informed and comfortable during this vulnerable time in their life."

EDUCATION

B.A., Texas A&M University; J.D., Thurgood Marshal School of Law

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